PANSY HEART ~ WEDDING SAMPLER ~ SUNFLOWER SHIRT

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MAY/JUNE 1995

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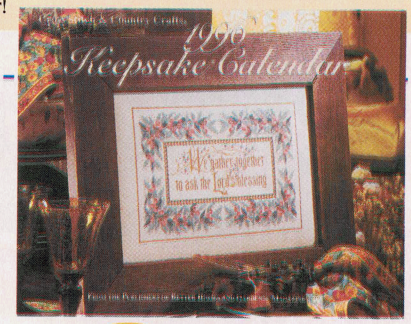

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MPA

Better Homes and Gardens®
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COVER
PHOTOGRAPHER: SCOTT LITTLE
Standing proud on a knarled tree stump, our magnificent rooster towers over a spray of luscious strawberries and crisp white blooms.

SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS 4
There are plenty of *Sunny Days* ahead with our cheerful cross-stitched sunflower bag and jewelry and buzzing bee sampler and button covers.

COLLECTOR'S SERIES 9
Our series of two handsome and exotic roosters is completed with the *Majestic Rooster* poised at attention against a brilliant blue background.

FINISH IT TONIGHT 12
Brighten up any kitchen with crisp white towels stitched with fresh-picked *Berries and Cherries*.

NEW TECHNIQUE 14
Learn how to embroider a *Romantic Pastel Heart* using colorful ribbons of silk and a collection of special stitches.

SPECIAL FEATURE 17
Floral Treasures is the theme for this beautiful wedding collection that includes a sampler and wedding accessories and the unique zinnia seed packet bag that's perfect for a summer bouquet.

SPECIAL FEATURE 24
Our sweet *Birthday Jewelry Bags*, for the last four months of the year, are just the right size to tuck tiny treasures and other special tokens of friendship.

DESIGNER PROFILE 27
Pretty pastel flosses and dainty pearls are combined in this gorgeous heart-shaped pansy motif designed by *Lorri Birmingham*.

CONTEST WINNER 29
From footballs to flowers, our prizewinning Mother's and Father's Day Samplers make for fun and fancy *Spring Greetings*.

CHRISTMAS CORNER 31
No matter what time of year, *Thoughts of Christmas* are always with us, so start stitching some inspirational ornaments now to create special memories when the next holiday season rolls around.

DEPARTMENTS

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TEARDROP BEADS

Dear Editor, *I want to make the Ivory Cross contest winner from the January/February 1995 issue. Where can I purchase ivory teardrop beads? Judy Bos, Grand Rapids, MI*

Dear Judy, *Isn't the cross beautiful? You can find the beads to make it at Walmart Stores. For future reference, the Buying Guide in* CS&CC *lists sources for many project supplies needed in that issue.*

MAIL ORDER

Dear Editor, *It's a long drive to the nearest cross-stitch shop. I'd like to order cross-stitch supplies and kits by mail. Any suggestions? Mary Lou Wright, Brownsville, TX*

Dear Mary Lou, *You can get a free copy of our catalog by writing to* Cross Stitch & Country Crafts, *Catalog Department, P.O. Box 6656, Maple Plain, MN, 55592-6656.*

A Celebration of Family

May and June bring an array of family celebrations. Spring weddings, school graduations, Mother's and Father's Day, new babies—what wonderful reasons to celebrate! While we are stitching gifts to give for these special events and creating pieces to treasure, we are also celebrating the family itself and all the joys that come with being part of a family.

It may appear that families have changed a great deal since we watched Donna Reed *and* Leave it to Beaver *so many years ago. But the families that we admire are really just as they have always been. Families provide a safe place to laugh and cry and share our feelings. It is the family that still holds us together somehow. As my 10-year-old simply puts it, "A family is a group of people who love each other and take care of each other." I guess that about says it all—a family really is something to celebrate.*

This month's issue is filled with delightful things to stitch for your family. Our Ribbons and Roses Wedding sampler, on page 17, is elegant all by itself or with the lovely wedding accessories we have added. Our contest winners on page 29, celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day with a pair of sweet designs by Caroline Karlsson. The birthday bags on page 24, finish an entire year's worth of pretty pouches and whether you've stitched these gifts to share with your own family or your family of friends, we hope you've enjoyed this floral series.

May this month's collection of cross-stitch designs inspire you to stitch for and celebrate your special family and keep stitching with us.

Carol Field Dahlstrom

CAROL FIELD DAHLSTROM, EDITOR IN CHIEF

Sunny Days

Golden sunflowers and ever-working bees are breezy motifs for the warm sunny days ahead. Stitch cheerful sunflower motifs on a bag, brooch, or purchased shirt in easy whole stitches. The clever bees sampler, page 7, *will add year-round warmth to your home decor and the honey bee button covers will sweeten a summer shirt. Complete instructions and charts for the sunflower designs begin on the next page. Instructions and chart for the bees are on pages 7–8.*

SUNFLOWER FUN

To make a simple summer blouse bloom, stitch a golden sunflower on the pocket and add a perky brooch with another gold blossom. Enjoy the spectacular beauty of sunflowers all year long with our roomy tote. The design works up easily on 8-count Aida. Instructions and charts begin below.

DESIGNERS: BAG, LORRI BIRMINGHAM; BROOCH AND POCKET, CAROLE RODGERS
PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

*SUNFLOWER BROOCH

MATERIALS

FABRICS

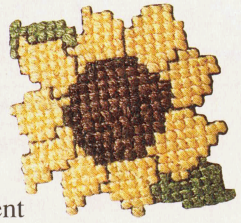
6x6-inch piece of 32-count antique tan linen
4x4-inch piece of lightweight fusible interfacing

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Needle
Embroidery hoop
1⅞-inch button form
Pin back
All-purpose cement



INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and of fabric; begin stitching there. Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply.

Fuse interfacing to back of linen following manufacturer's instructions. Center design over button form; trim fabric ½ inch beyond edge. Run a gathering thread ¼ inch from cut edge; tighten gathers. Assemble button following the manufacturer's instructions.

Remove button shank; cement pin to back of button form.

*SUNFLOWER POCKET

MATERIALS

FABRICS

Purchased chambray shirt
5x5-inch piece of 14-count waste canvas

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Basting thread
Needle; tweezers

INSTRUCTIONS

Wash and dry shirt. Tape or zigzag edges of waste canvas. Baste waste canvas to shirt pocket, centering left to right, with top edge at top of pocket edge. Find center of chart and of canvas; begin stitching there.

Work cross-stitches using three plies of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss.

Remove basting threads; trim canvas close to stitching. Wet canvas, using tweezers, pull individual canvas threads from under stitches.

**SUNFLOWER TOTE BAG

MATERIALS

FABRICS

14x14-inch piece of 8-count white Aida cloth
1 yard of 60-inch-wide blue canvas fabric
1 yard of 45-inch-wide blue cotton fabric
⅝ yard of fusible fleece

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 6
One additional skein *each* of deep mahogany (DMC 300), medium mahogany (DMC 301), navy (DMC 322), true pistachio (DMC 320), medium pistachio (DMC 367), dark mahogany (DMC 400), true yellow (DMC 743), canary (DMC 972), and antique blue (DMC 3753)

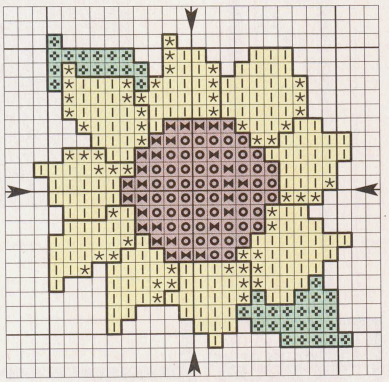
SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
Sewing thread to match fabrics

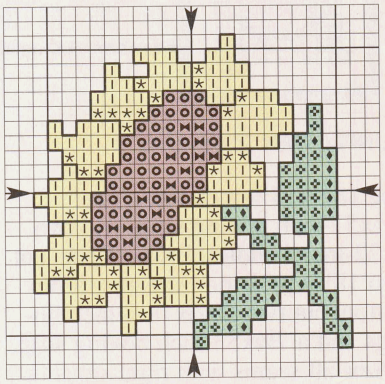
SUNFLOWER BROOCH AND POCKET

ANCHOR		DMC
295	✳	726 Topaz
302	|	743 True yellow
360	◎	3031 Mocha
268	♦	3345 Medium hunter green
267	⁘	3346 Light hunter green
382	⋈	3371 Black brown
BACKSTITCH		
268	/	3345 Medium hunter green–leaves
382	/	3371 Black brown–all remaining stitches

SHIRT POCKET stitch count: *22 high x 22 wide*
SHIRT POCKET finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 1½ x 1½ inches
11-count fabric – 2 x 2 inches
8½-count fabric – 2½ x 2½ inches
BROOCH stitch count: *22 high x 22 wide*
BROOCH finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 1½ x 1½ inches
16-count fabric – 1⅜ x 1⅜ inches
18-count fabric – 1¼ x 1¼ inches



SUNFLOWER BROOCH

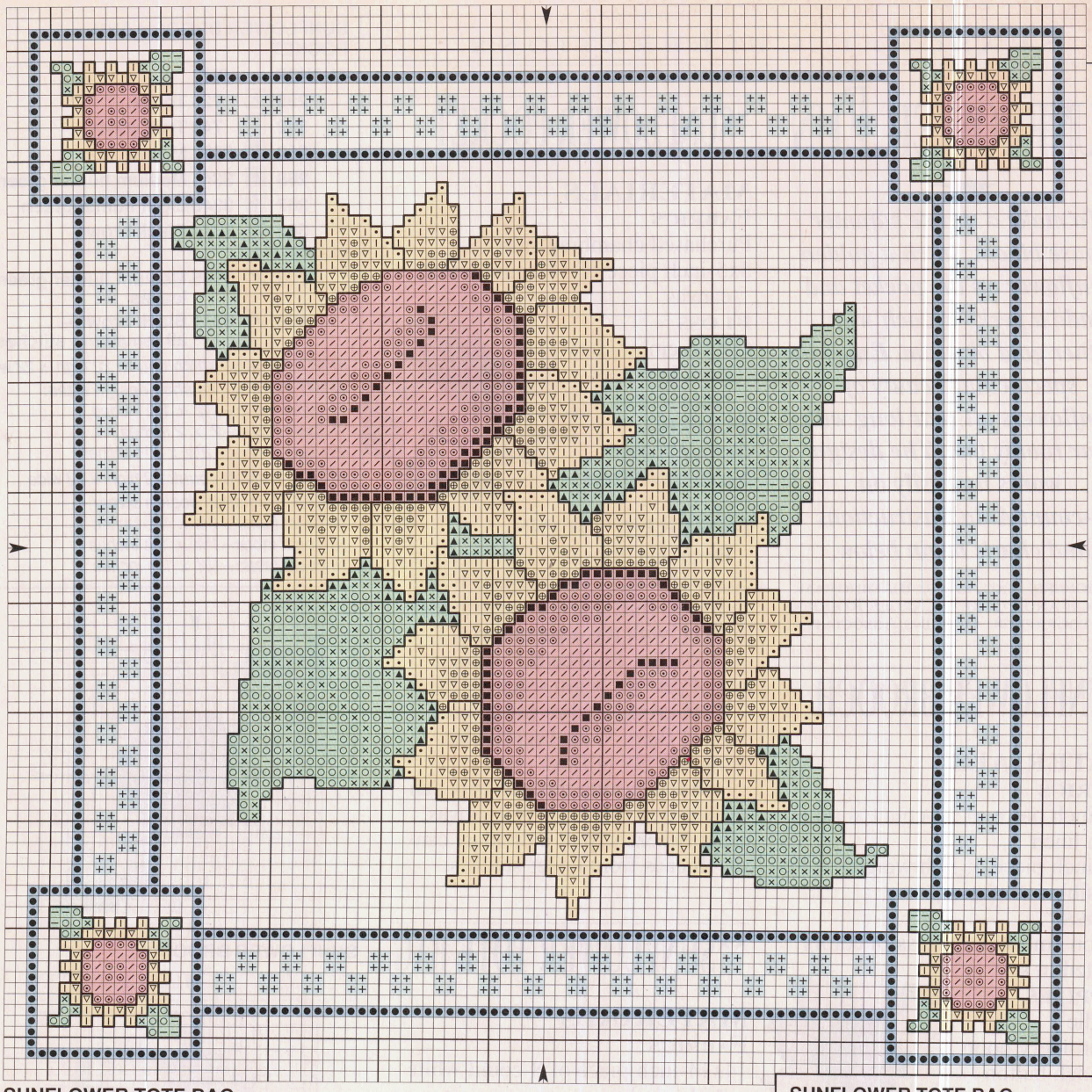


SUNFLOWER POCKET

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric. Find center of chart and of fabric; begin stitching there. Use six plies of floss to work cross-stitches. Work backstitches using two plies. Trim Aida to measure 12½x12½ inches.

From canvas, cut two 15½x4-inch horizontal sashing strips, two 18½x4-inch vertical sashing strips,



SUNFLOWER TOTE BAG

one 18¼x18¼-inch back, one 7½x53-inch boxing strip, and two 4x22-inch handles. From fleece, cut two 18¼x18¼-inch squares. From cotton, cut two 18¼x18¼-inch linings and a 7½x53-inch boxing strip.

Sew all seams with right sides facing unless otherwise specified. All measurements include ½-inch seam allowance. Press seam allowances toward darker fabric.

Sew horizontal sashing strips to top and bottom edge of Aida square. Sew vertical sashing strips to sides of Aida square to complete front.

Fuse fleece to front and back bag pieces following manufacturer's instructions. Beginning at one corner, sew one long edge of boxing strip to sides and bottom of front, right sides together, clipping and pivoting boxing strip at corners. Sew remaining long edge of boxing strip to sides and bottom of bag back. Stitch lining pieces together in same manner except, leave an opening at bottom; *do not* turn.

Fold each handle in half lengthwise, right sides together. Stitch long edge, turn, and press. With raw edges even, stitch ends of one handle to top of bag front 4 inches from side seams. Repeat with back bag handle. With right sides together, stitch top of bag and top of lining together, matching seams; turn. Slipstitch opening closed. Tuck lining into bag; press carefully.

SUNFLOWER TOTE BAG

ANCHOR		DMC
352	■	300 Deep mahogany
1049	/	301 Medium mahogany
218	▲	319 Dark pistachio
215	○	320 True pistachio
978	●	322 Navy
217	×	367 Medium pistachio
214	—	368 Light pistachio
351	⊙	400 Dark mahogany
323	⊕	722 Bittersweet
302	|	743 True yellow
300	•	745 Light yellow
298	▽	972 Canary
1031	+	3753 Antique blue
BACKSTITCH		
218	/	319 Dark pistachio – leaves
352	/	300 Deep mahogany – all remaining stitches

Stitch count: *94 high x 94 wide*

Finished design sizes:

8-count fabric – 11¾ x 11¾ inches

11-count fabric – 8¾ x 8¾ inches

14-count fabric – 6¾ x 6¾ inches

BEES A-BUZZ

Buzzing bees surround the whimsical verse on this charming sampler. The design is worked over two threads on 32-count Belfast linen. We've stitched a few of the bees as button covers to add an amusing touch to a plain blouse. Instructions begin at right and chart is on page 8.

DESIGNER: PATRICIA ANDRLE
PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

**BEE SAMPLER

MATERIALS

FABRIC

10x10-inch piece of 32-count light mocha Belfast linen

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 8

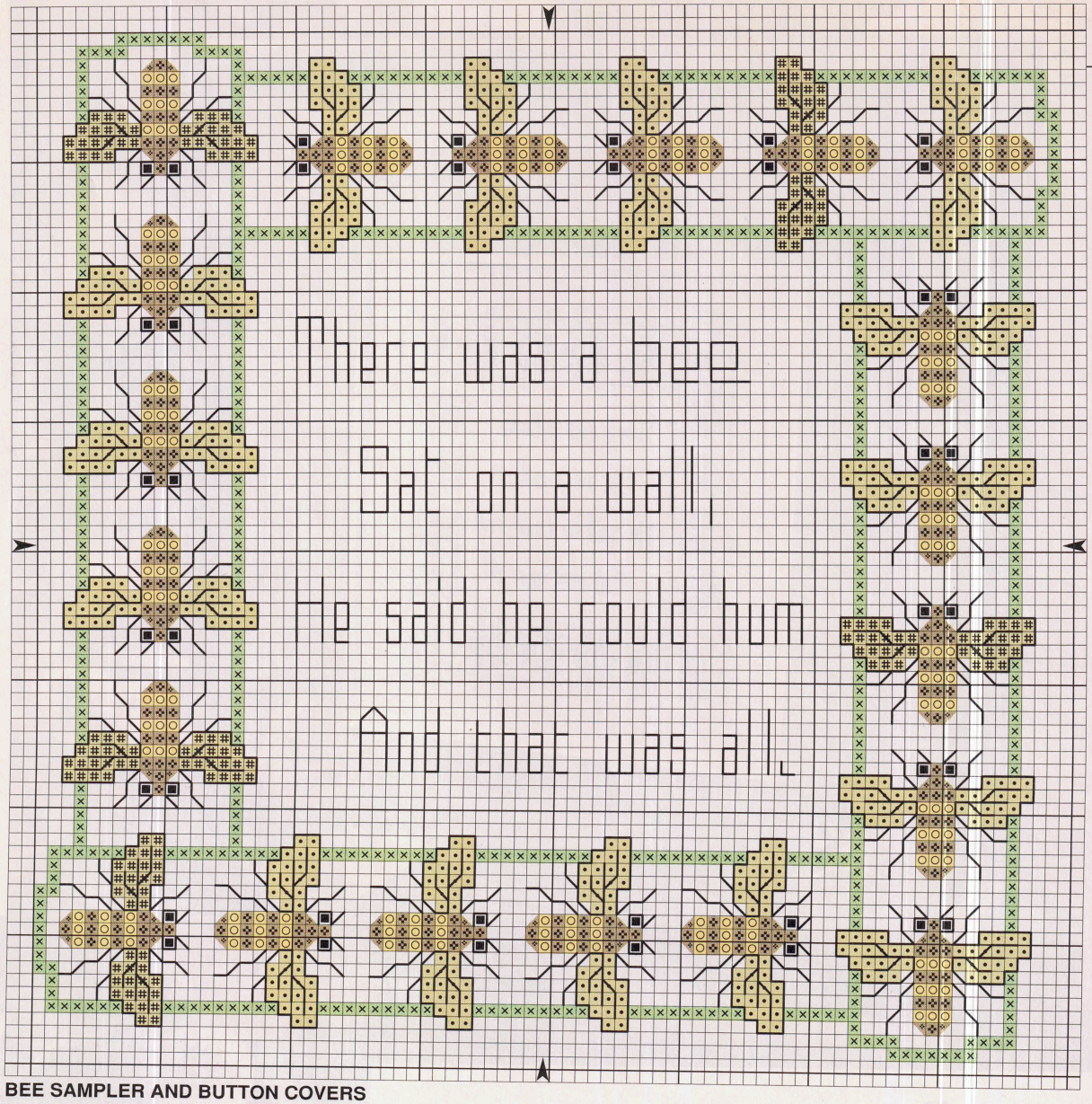
SUPPLIES

Needle
Embroidery hoop
Desired frame and mat

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find the center of chart and the center of fabric; begin stitching there.

Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply of floss unless otherwise specified in key. Press finished stitchery and frame as desired.



BEE SAMPLER AND BUTTON COVERS

★★BEE BUTTON COVERS

MATERIALS

For each button cover

FABRICS

6x6-inch piece of 32-count light mocha Belfast linen
3x3-inch piece of lightweight fusible interfacing

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
1⅛-inch-diameter button form
Button cover finding
Sewing thread
Wire cutters
All-purpose cement

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric. Find center of desired bee on chart and center of fabric; begin stitching there.

Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply of floss unless otherwise specified in key.

Fuse interfacing to the back of stitched piece following manufacturer's instructions. Center design over button form; trim fabric ½ inch beyond edge. Run a gathering thread ¼ inch from cut edge; tighten gathers. Assemble button following manufacturer's instructions.

Remove button shank using wire cutters. Cement button to the button cover finding.❖

BEE SAMPLER AND BUTTON COVERS

ANCHOR		DMC	
403	■	310	Black
373	#	422	Hazel
267	×	469	Avocado
361	•	738	Tan
302	○	743	Yellow
382	⁘	3371	Black brown
BACKSTITCH			
403	/	310	Black – legs, antennae
382	/	3371	Black brown – lettering (2X), heads, wings (1X)

Stitch count: *79 high x 79 wide*

Finished design sizes:

16-count fabric – 4⅞ x 4⅞ inches
14-count fabric – 5⅝ x 5⅝ inches
11-count fabric – 7⅛ x 7⅛ inches

REGAL ROOSTERS

MAJESTIC ROOSTER

The second and final design in our exotic rooster series features a Majestic Rooster *standing with head held high next to a tree stump entwined with blooming strawberries. A rich blue linen background emphasizes his aristocratic features. To brighten summertime suppers, stitch the distinctive strawberry motif on napkins. Complete instructions for the rooster are below and chart is on pages 10–11.*

DESIGNER:
LINDA GORDANIER JARY
PHOTOGRAPHER: SCOTT LITTLE

Imperial Rooster

The companion rooster and napkin appeared in the March/April issue which can be ordered on page 38.

★★★★MAJESTIC ROOSTER

MATERIALS

FABRIC

18x16-inch piece of 28-count Nordic blue linen

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 11

SUPPLIES

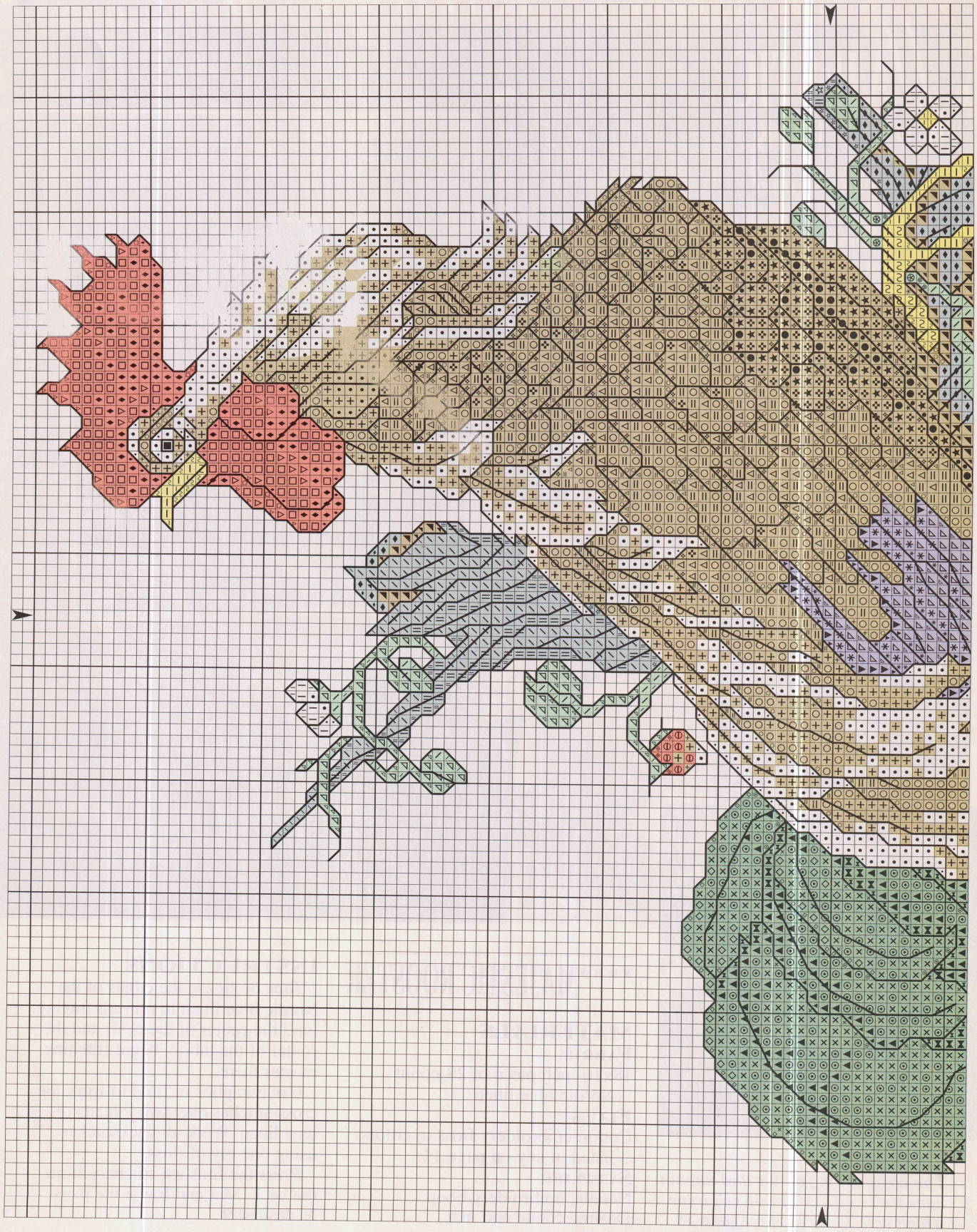
Needle; embroidery hoop
Desired frame and mat

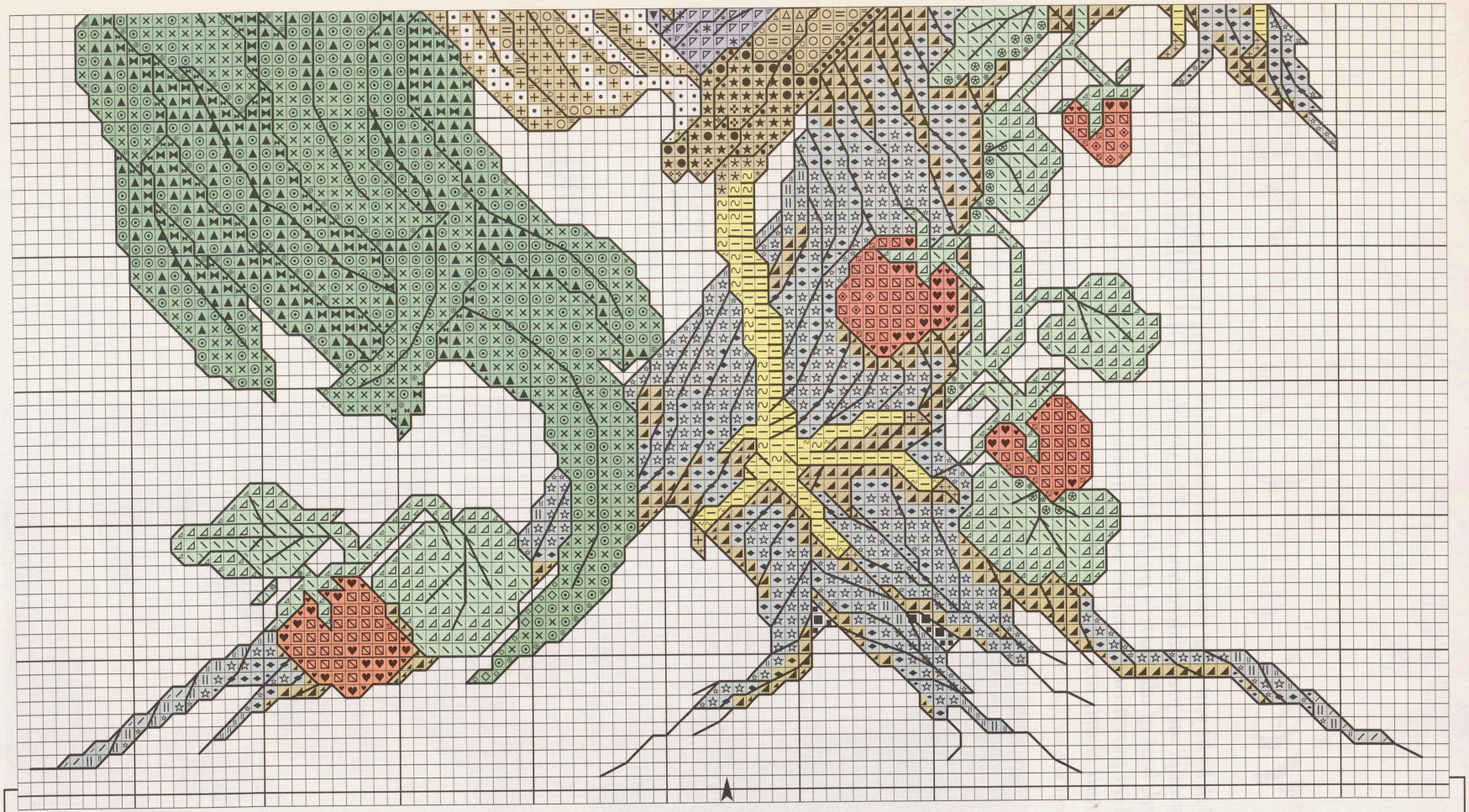
INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag the edges of the Nordic blue linen to prevent fraying. Find the center of the chart and the center of the fabric; begin stitching rooster there.

Use two plies of floss to work the cross-stitches over two threads of blue linen. Work all backstitches using one ply of floss.

Press the finished stitchery from the back. Mat and frame the piece as desired.❖





MAJESTIC ROOSTER

ANCHOR	DMC
002	000 White
403	310 Black
9046	321 Christmas red
013	349 Dark coral
011	350 Medium coral
374	420 Medium hazel
267	470 Medium avocado
266	471 Light avocado
253	472 Pale avocado
046	666 Red
891	676 Light old gold
886	677 Pale old gold
901	680 Dark old gold
305	725 True topaz
293	727 Pale topaz
890	729 Medium old gold
275	746 Off white
307	783 Christmas gold
013	817 Deep coral
944	869 Dark hazel
035	891 Dark carnation
027	894 Pale carnation
1044	895 Dark hunter green
861	935 Pine green
393	3022 Medium brown gray
899	3023 Light brown gray
397	3024 Pale brown gray
871	3041 Medium antique violet
870	3042 Light antique violet
847	3072 Beaver gray
268	3345 Medium hunter green
817	3346 Light hunter green
264	3347 Yellow green
872	3740 Dark antique violet
1050	3781 Mocha
273	3787 Dark brown gray
BACKSTITCH	
382	3371 Black brown – all stitches

MAJESTIC ROOSTER stitch count:
139 high x 104 wide

MAJESTIC ROOSTER finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 10 x 7½ inches
11-count fabric – 12⅝ x 9½ inches
16-count fabric – 8⅝ x 6½ inches

Berries and Cherries

The fruits of the season will delight you year round when you stitch these blueberry and cherry motifs on prefinished towels. The simple designs work up quickly and, best of all, there's no finishing! The designs could also be used on purchased napkins or pot holders. Complete instructions and charts are on these two pages.

DESIGNER: ALICE OKON ● PHOTOGRAPHER: SCOTT LITTLE

★BLUEBERRY TOWEL

MATERIALS

FABRIC

12-count blue-and-white Saar prefinished towel (see page 38)

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Needle

Embroidery hoop

INSTRUCTIONS

Find center of middle blueberry motif in top row on chart. On towel, find the second row of squares from one end. Begin stitching in center of the middle square in that row.

Work cross-stitches using three plies of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss.

★CHERRY TOWEL

MATERIALS

FABRIC

12-count red-and-white Saar prefinished towel (see page 38)

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

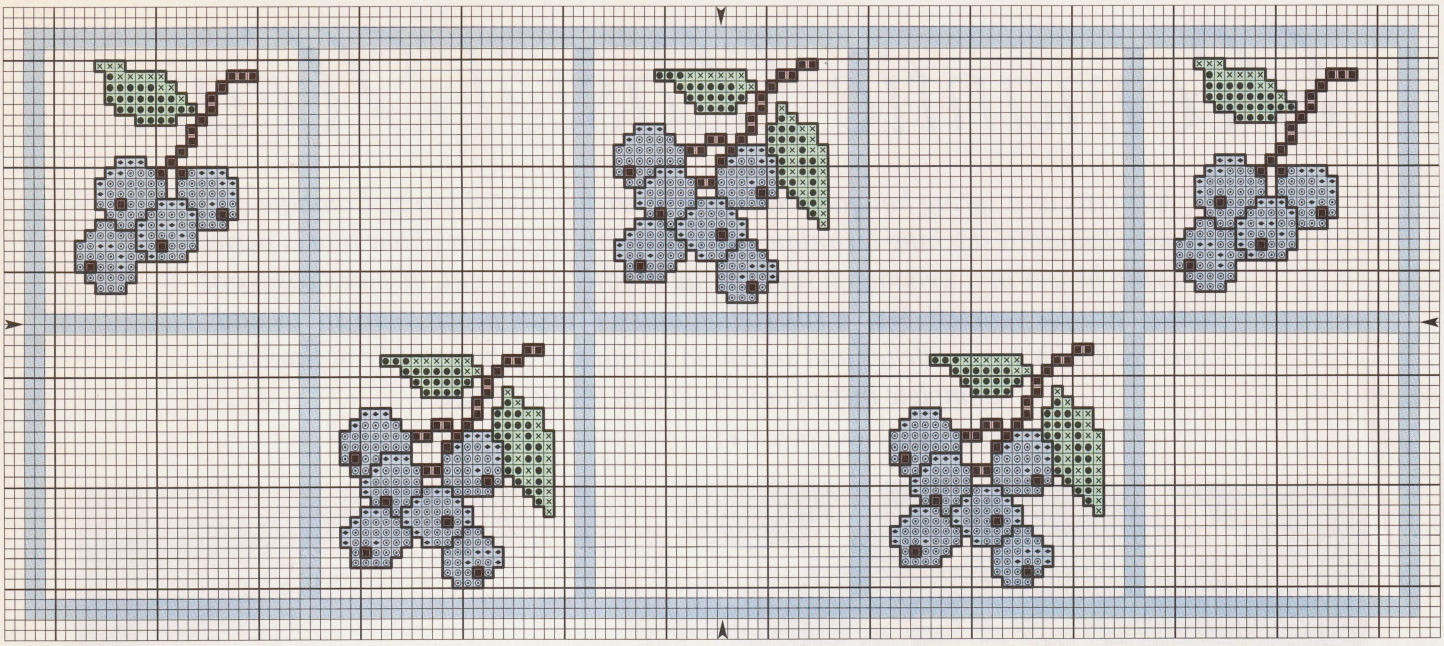
Needle

Embroidery hoop

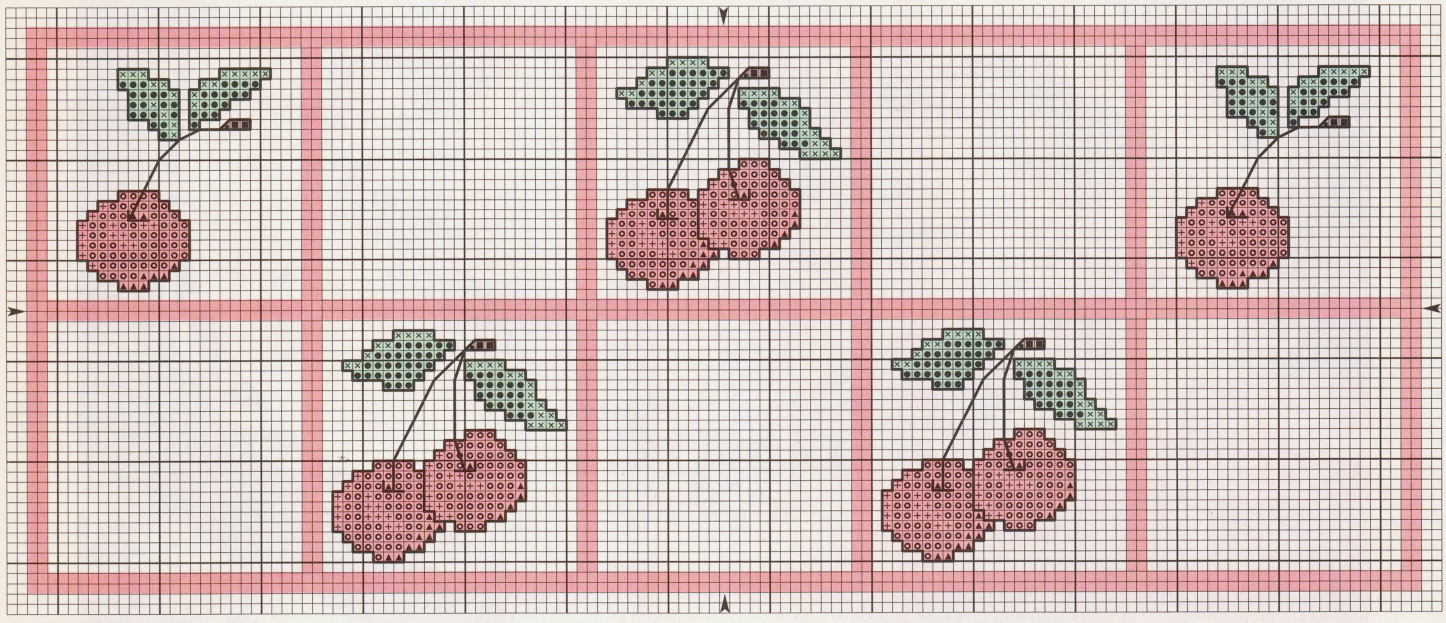
INSTRUCTIONS

Find center of middle cherry motif in top row on chart. On towel, find the second row of squares from one end. Begin stitching in center of the middle square in that row.

Work cross-stitches using three plies of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss unless otherwise specified in key.❖



BLUEBERRY TOWEL



CHERRY TOWEL

Note: The tinted areas on both charts, without symbols, represent the bordered stitching areas of the towels.

BLUEBERRY TOWEL

ANCHOR		DMC
979	⊙	312 Light navy
150	◆	336 Medium navy
359	■	801 Coffee brown
244	●	987 Medium forest green
243	⊠	988 Light forest green
BACKSTITCH		
148	/	311 True navy – blueberries
359	/	801 Coffee brown – stems
246	/	986 Dark forest green – leaves

Stitch count: *56 high x 137 wide*

Finished design size:
12-count fabric – 4 5/8 x 11 3/8 inches

CHERRY TOWEL

ANCHOR		DMC
011	⊙	350 Medium coral
009	+	352 Pale coral
359	■	801 Coffee brown
013	▲	817 Deep coral
244	●	987 Medium forest green
243	⊠	988 Light forest green
BACKSTITCH		
359	/	801 Coffee brown – stems (2X)
1005	/	816 Garnet – cherries
246	/	986 Dark forest green – leaves

Stitch count: *56 high x 137 wide*

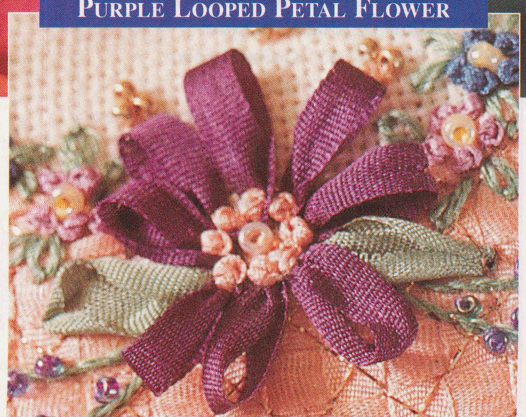
Finished design size:
12-count fabric – 4 5/8 x 11 3/8 inches

Romantic Pastel Heart

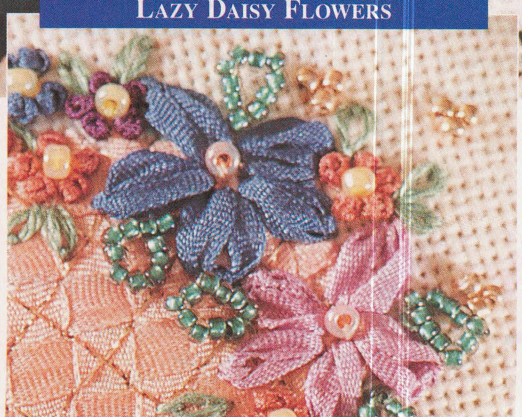
As pretty as a spring bouquet, silk ribbons are lavish and lovely. Combine them with beautiful stitching techniques to create this tiny heart pillow that is perfect for a ring bearer in a wedding, a very special Mother's Day gift, or an extravagant indulgence for yourself. Weave silk ribbon into a delicate peach heart shape and overlay it with cross-stitches and surround it with silk ribbon and bead flowers. Complete instructions begin on the next page.

DESIGNER: LAURA COLLINS ● PHOTOGRAPHER: SCOTT LITTLE

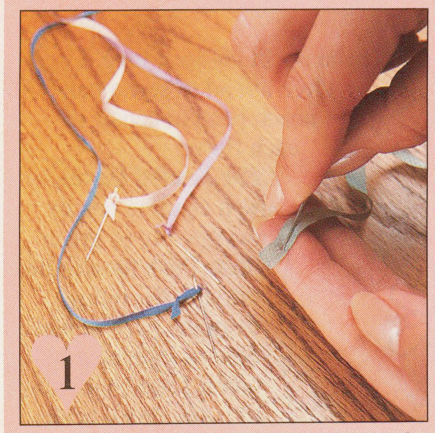
PURPLE LOOPED PETAL FLOWER



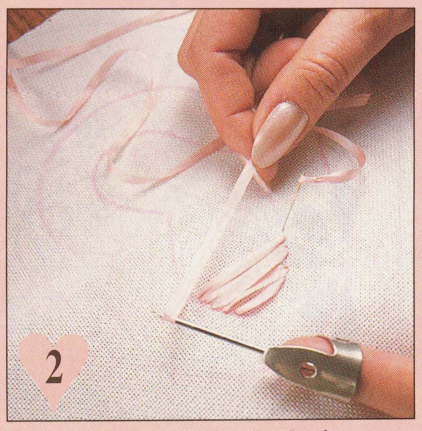
LAZY DAISY FLOWERS



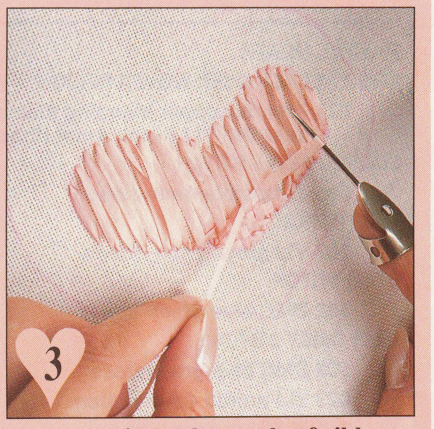
STEP-BY-STEP SILK RIBBON EMBROIDERY



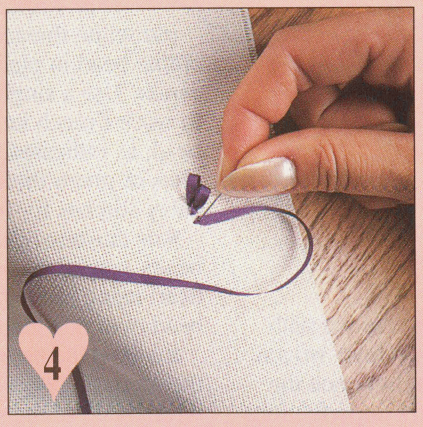
To secure ribbon in the needle, push the needle through the tip of the ribbon; pull the loop close to the needle. For convenience, thread a new needle for each color of ribbon.



Begin ribbon weaving by laying down parallel strands vertically. Use a laying tool to keep strands smooth and flat. Space stitches so the edges of ribbons just touch.



Weave horizontal strands of ribbon over one and under one vertical ribbon. Gently push ribbons close to form a pattern of squares.



When weaving is complete, work looped petal stitch flower at the top center of the heart. Push needle through fabric from the back. Leaving a loop ¾-inch long, push the needle through the ribbon and fabric close to where ribbon emerges from the fabric.

Work the large leaves in leaf stitch. Push the needle through fabric from the back. Then, push the needle back through the ribbon and fabric ½-inch from the point where ribbon emerged from fabric.

PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

★★★★PASTEL HEART

Finished size is about 4x5¼ inches.

MATERIALS

FABRIC

Two 9x10-inch pieces of 25-count peach Lugana fabric

THREADS

4-millimeter and 7-millimeter silk ribbon as specified in key on page 16

Blending filament as specified in key on page 16

Cotton embroidery floss as specified in key on page 16

SUPPLIES

Tracing paper

Water-erasable marking pen

Embroidery, beading, and sewing needles

Seed beads as specified in key on page 16

Petite glass beads as specified in key on page 16

Two packages of cream petite glass beads (Mill Hill 40123)

4x5¼-inch piece of heart-shaped self-stick mounting board with foam

Polyester fiberfill (optional)

White sewing thread

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of one piece of Lugana to prevent fraying. Trace pattern, *page 16*. Transfer center heart shape to center of fabric.

Work center woven area with peach ribbon. Work vertical ribbons first, using vertical threads of fabric as a guide and referring to photograph 2, *above*. Fill the entire heart area with vertical lengths of ribbon, making sure ribbons touch, but do not overlap, one another.

Work horizontal ribbons, weaving each ribbon over one, then under one vertical ribbon (photograph 3),

PASTEL HEART

CROSS-STITCH OVER WOVEN RIBBON

- 021 Kreinik copper blending filament over 087 YLI peach 4 mm ribbon

LOOPED PETAL STITCH

- 085 YLI purple 4 mm ribbon

LEAF STITCH

- 032 YLI green 7mm ribbon

STEM STITCH

- 502 DMC blue green floss

LAZY DAISY STITCH

- 502 DMC blue green floss
- 023 YLI orchid 4 mm ribbon
- 045 YLI blue 4 mm ribbon

BEADED LEAVES

- × 45270 Mill Hill green petite beads

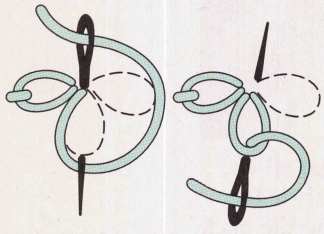
FRENCH KNOTS

- 023 YLI orchid 4 mm ribbon
- 045 YLI blue 4 mm ribbon
- 085 YLI purple 4 mm ribbon
- 088 YLI adobe 4 mm ribbon

BEADS

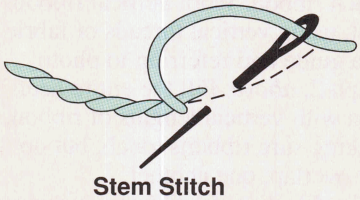
- × 00148 Mill Hill pale peach seed bead
- × 02003 Mill Hill peach creme seed bead
- × 40252 Mill Hill iris petite bead
- × 42030 Mill Hill copper petite bead

SILK FLOWER HEART



Lazy Daisy

French Knot



Stem Stitch

alternating weaving sequence with each succeeding row. (Outer woven edges will be uneven, but once the flowers are added, any imperfections will be hidden.) Using a single strand of blending filament, work one cross-stitch atop alternating woven squares, referring to pattern, above.

Reposition the pattern over woven heart and mark the flower and leaf positions using the water-erasable marking pen.

For purple looped petal flower, use white thread to sew a pale peach bead at the top center of the woven heart. Using purple ribbon, work eight ¾-inch looped petal stitches (photograph 4, page 15) around the bead. With peach ribbon, work eight French knots in a circle around center bead. Add ½-inch leaf stitches (photograph 5, page 15) for leaves, using green ribbon. With one strand of green floss, work curved stems in stem stitch. Use white thread to sew purple petite beads along stems.

For lazy daisy flowers, work a blue and an orchid ribbon flower on each side of heart, making each lazy daisy petal about 5/16-inch long. Use white thread to sew a pale peach bead in center of each flower.

For beaded leaves, use a beading needle and one ply of green floss. Push the needle through the fabric from the back at leaf base as indicated by green X on chart; slip 10 petite green beads onto the floss, then reinsert the needle at the base of the leaf. Secure floss on the back of the fabric.

For French knot flowers, use white thread to sew a peach creme bead in place for each flower center. Use a single strand of ribbon to work French knots around each bead, as indicated on chart. Use two plies of green floss to work lazy daisy stitches for leaves.

Sew clusters of three petite copper beads around the outer edge of the heart using white thread. Sew each bead over one thread of fabric.

Remove the paper backing from the mounting board. Center on the wrong side of the stitched design. Press to stick. Trim fabric ½ inch beyond the mounting board. Glue excess fabric to the back. Trace around the mounting board on the remaining piece of Lugana and cut out ½ inch beyond the traced line. Press excess fabric to the wrong side, clipping as necessary. Position over the back side of the mounting board and pin. Slip-stitch the edges together. If desired, slip a tiny amount of fiberfill between the back piece of fabric and the mounting board before sewing pieces together.

For beaded edging, thread a beading needle with white thread. Slip needle from back of heart to seam line, pulling the knot to interior of heart. Slip 12 cream beads on the thread and insert the needle into the seam line about ¼ inch from beginning thread to create loop. Continue in this manner until entire heart outline is beaded. Occasionally knot thread after completing a loop.❖

SPECIAL FEATURE

Floral Treasures

Ribbon and Roses Wedding

A delicate pearl border frames the pastel floss shades of our elegant bridal sampler. The matching bag is trimmed in lace and satin pastel ribbons to hold tiny treasures. Shoe clips, stitched with a single rose motif, are perfect accessories for the bride and bridesmaids. Stitch another single rose on a purchased handkerchief as a special gift for the mother of the bride. Complete instructions and charts begin below.

DESIGNER: LORRI BIRMINGHAM
PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

★★★★WEDDING SAMPLER

MATERIALS

FABRIC

18x15-inch piece of 28-count new khaki Brittney fabric

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 21

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
2½-millimeter pearls
White sewing thread
Desired frame and mat

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and of fabric; begin stitching there.

Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work straight stitches of border using one ply of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss. Use sewing thread to sew pearls to fabric at positions shown on chart. Press finished stitchery face down on a padded surface. Mat and frame as desired.

★★ROSE SHOE CLIPS

MATERIALS

FABRICS

Two 6x6-inch pieces of 28-count white linen
Two 3x3-inch pieces of lightweight fusible interfacing

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 21
One additional skein of dark rose pink (DMC 961)

SUPPLIES

Needle
Embroidery hoop
Two 1½-inch-diameter button forms
Wire cutters
Two shoe clip findings
Fine sandpaper
All-purpose cement
Crafts glue

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of one piece of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and center of fabric; begin stitching there. Use three plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply of floss. Repeat with remaining fabric.

Press linen on wrong side. Fuse interfacing to back of stitched pieces following manufacturer's instructions. Centering motif over button forms, trim fabric ½ inch beyond edge. Run a gathering thread ¼ inch from the cut edge. Pull thread to smooth linen around top of form.

Assemble the button back following manufacturer's instructions. Use wire cutters to remove button shanks. Sand center back of button and backs of shoe clips. Using cement, glue shoe clips to back button forms.

For twisted cord, cut three 16-inch strands of the pink floss; combine into a single strand. Twist until entire strand is tightly wound; fold in half. Hold two ends while two halves twist around each other. Starting at bottom of one covered button form, glue twisted cord around covered button form. Repeat for remaining shoe clip.

★★RICE BAG

As shown on page 17, finished bag is 5¾x3¼ inches

MATERIALS

FABRICS

8x6-inch piece of 28-count white linen
½ yard of 45-inch-wide pink satin

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 21

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
Nine 2½-millimeter pearls
White sewing thread
½ yard of ⅛-inch-diameter cording
⅓ yard of ½-inch-wide white pre-gathered lace
1 yard each ⅛-inch-wide pink, green, and lavender satin ribbon

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and center of fabric; begin stitching there. Use three plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply of floss. Use sewing thread to attach pearls. Press linen, face down on a padded surface.

Trim linen ½ inch beyond bottom row of stitches. Trim remaining sides to make a 3½x5¾-inch rectangle. From satin cut three 3½x5¾-inch rectangles, a ¾x14-inch bias piping strip, and a 1¾x22-inch bias ruffle strip. Sew seams with right sides together using ¼-inch seam allowances unless otherwise noted.

Center cording lengthwise on wrong side of piping strip. Fold fabric around cording, raw edges together. Use a zipper foot to sew through both layers close to cording. Pin covered cording to sides and bottom of linen bag front, raw edges even. Sew one satin rectangle (bag back) to linen bag front. Clip corners and turn right side out.

Baste lace to right side of bag top edge with straight edge of lace just inside ¼-inch seam allowances. Whipstitch lace ends together. Join short ends of ruffle strip; fold in half lengthwise with wrong sides together. Sew a gathering thread through both layers ¼ inch from raw edges. Pull threads to fit top of bag with raw edges even. Stitch, along basting, sandwiching lace between bag and ruffle.

For lining, sew long sides of remaining satin rectangles, *do not* turn. Slip bag into lining with right sides facing. Sew top of lining to top of bag; pull lining right side out. Turn under ¼ inch along bottom edges of lining; slipstitch closed. Tuck lining into bag. Knot ribbon ends and tie around bag.

★★HANDKERCHIEF

MATERIALS

FABRICS

Purchased 10¾x10¾-inch linen handkerchief with hemstitched edge
4x4-inch piece of 14-count waste canvas

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key on page 21

SUPPLIES

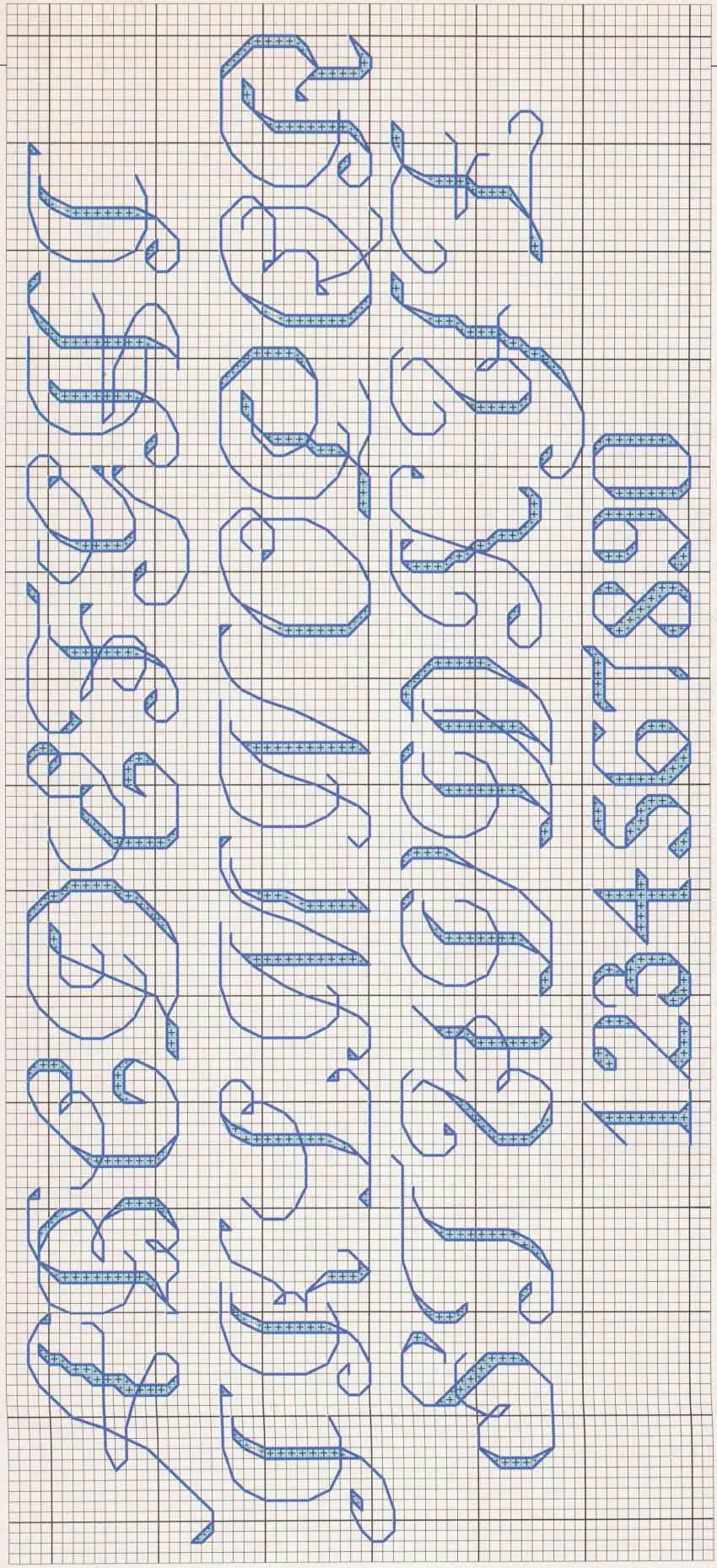
Needle
Basting thread
Five 2½-millimeter pearls
White sewing thread
Tweezers
1¼ yard of ⅞-inch-wide white flat lace
1¾ yards of blue Ribbonfloss or 1/16-inch-wide ribbon

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag the edges of waste canvas to prevent fraying. Baste waste canvas at a 45° angle over one corner of handkerchief.

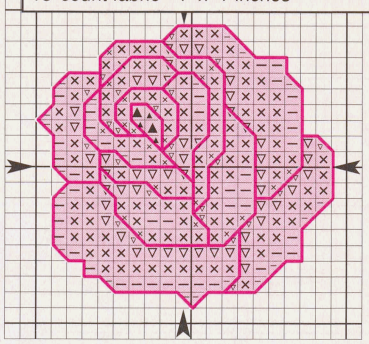
Measure 1½ inches from bottom edge of handkerchief; begin stitching lower edge of stem there. Use three plies of floss to work cross-stitches. Work backstitches using one ply of floss. Use sewing thread to attach pearls.

Use tweezers to carefully pull the waste canvas threads from under the cross-stitches. Press finished stitchery on wrong side. Sew lace around edges of handkerchief. Weave ribbon through hemstitched edge of handkerchief; tie ends into a bow.❖



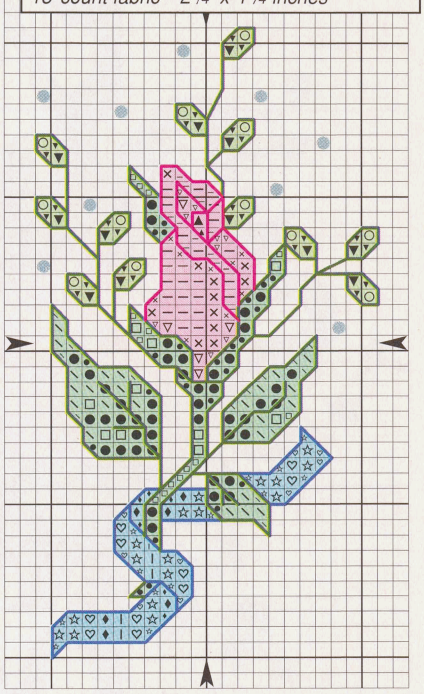
WEDDING SAMPLER ALPHABET

SHOE CLIP stitch count: *18 high x 19 wide*
SHOE CLIP finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 1¼ x 1⅜ inches
18-count fabric – 1 x 1 inches



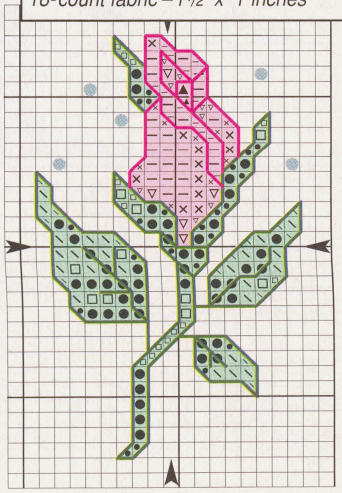
SHOE CLIP

RICE BAG stitch count: *41 high x 22 wide*
RICE BAG finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 2⅞ x 1½ inches
18-count fabric – 2¼ x 1¼ inches

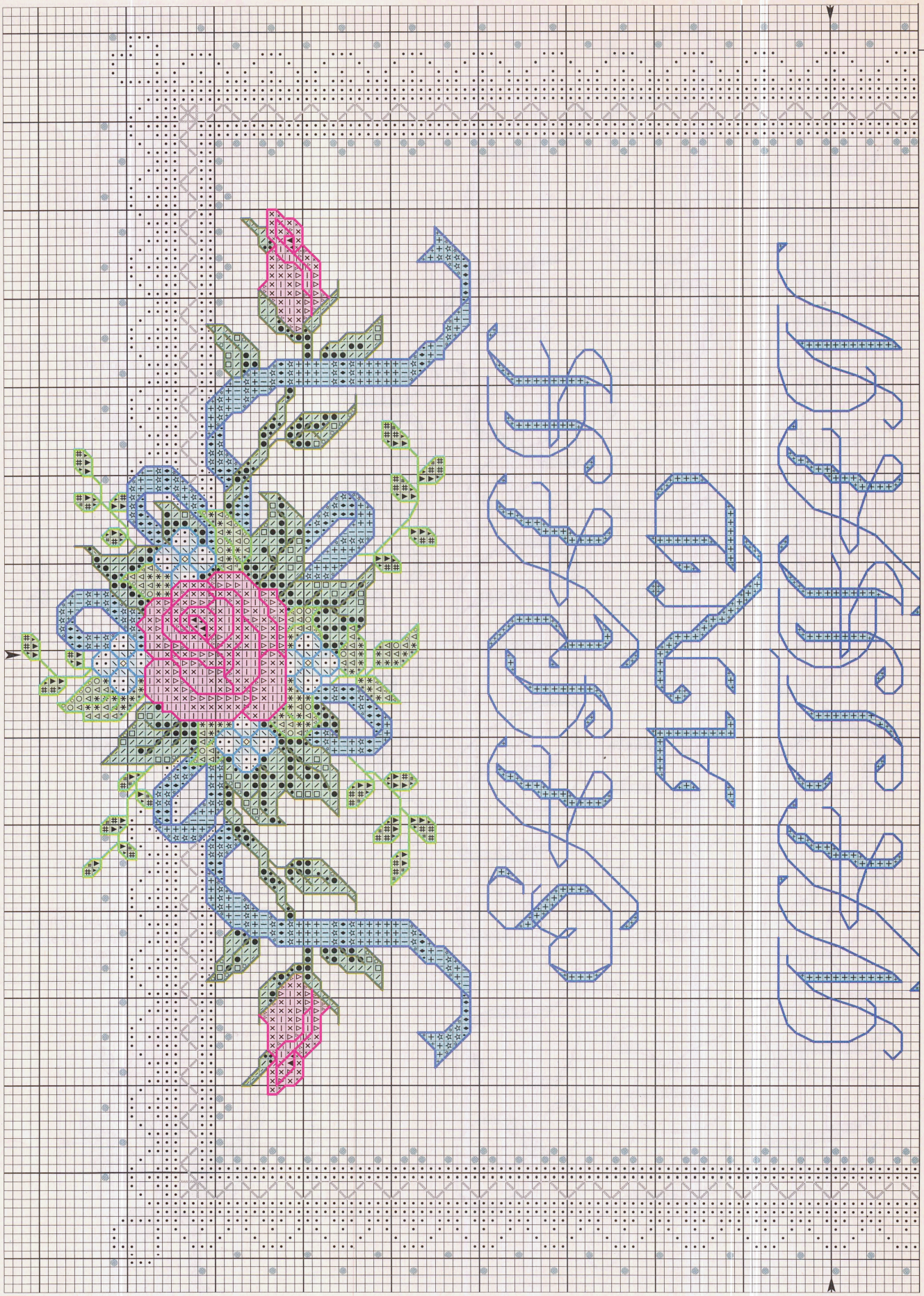


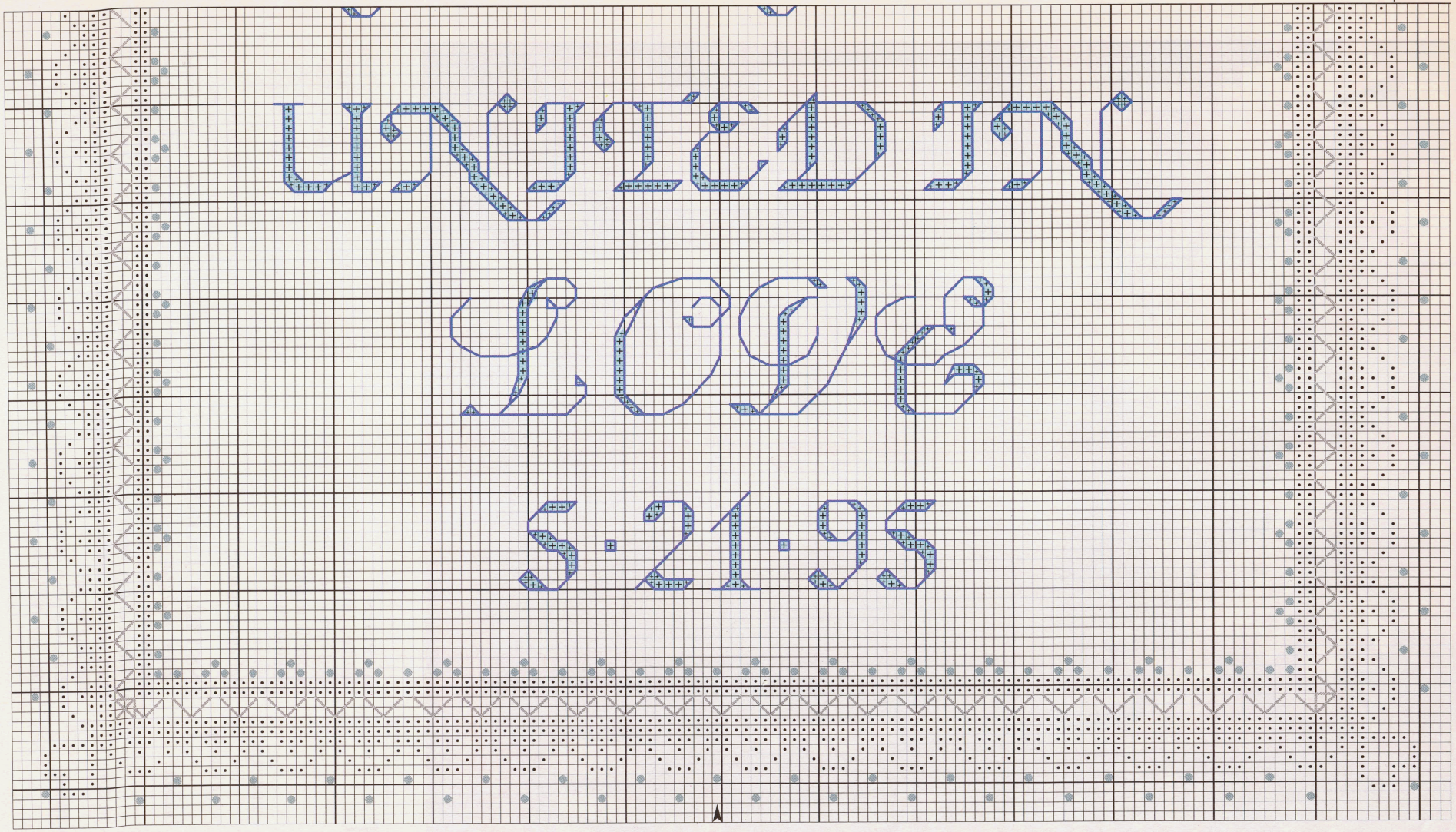
RICE BAG

HANDKERCHIEF stitch count: *28 high x 17 wide*
HANDKERCHIEF finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 2 x 1¼ inches
18-count fabric – 1½ x 1 inches



HANDKERCHIEF





WEDDING SAMPLER

ANCHOR	DMC	
002	000	White
118	340	Medium periwinkle
117	341	Light periwinkle
267	469	Dark avocado
266	470	Medium avocado
253	471	Light avocado
878	501	Dark blue green
877	502	Medium blue green
875	503	True blue green
293	727	Topaz
128	775	Baby blue
076	961	Dark rose pink
075	962	Medium rose pink
073	963	Pale rose pink
681	3051	Dark gray green
262	3052	Medium gray green
025	3716	Light rose pink
1030	3746	Dark periwinkle
120	3747	Pale periwinkle

BACKSTITCH

267	469	Dark avocado – small and medium leaves, vine
683	500	Deep blue green – large leaves
059	600	Cranberry – roses
131	798	Delft blue – small flowers
1030	3746	Dark periwinkle – ribbon, lettering

STRAIGHT STITCH

002	000	White – border

PEARLS

White – border

WEDDING SAMPLER stitch count:
184 high x 143 wide

WEDDING SAMPLER finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 13⅛ x 10¼ inches
18-count fabric – 10¼ x 8 inches

SPECIAL FEATURE

Old-Fashioned Seed Packet

A glorious profusion of colorful zinnias brighten the front of this clever bag which was inspired by a modest seed packet. The finished stitchery was fused to cotton fabric, then sewn into a bag shape. Fill the finished bag with dried flowers, or try placing a vase of fresh blossoms into the bag for a delightfully unique floral arrangement. Complete instructions begin below, chart is opposite.

DESIGNER: RUTH SCHMUFF
PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

★★★SEED PACKET

MATERIALS

FABRICS

16x23-inch piece of 28-count star sapphire linen
16x23-inch piece floral print cotton fabric
16x23-inch piece paper-backed iron-on adhesive

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key
Overdyed floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
Seed beads in color listed in key
Erasable marker
Pinking shears
Scissors
Matching sewing thread

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. With 23-inch edge of fabric at top, find the center of chart and the center of fabric; begin stitching there.

Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work satin stitches using four plies of overdyed floss. Work French knots using two plies of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss. Use one ply of navy floss to sew beads to flower centers.

Fuse iron-on adhesive to the wrong side of linen. Remove the paper backing and fuse to the cotton fabric following the manufacturer's instructions. All measurements include ½-inch seam allowance.

Measure 2½ inches above top edge of purple triangle at top of design; use marker to draw a line parallel to top of triangle the width

Lorri Birmingham

PHOTOGRAPHER: SCOTT LITTLE

In the mid 1980s, after completing an art education degree from the Paier School of Fine Arts, Lorri Birmingham opened a crafts and gifts store in Maine. One day, a woman asked Lorri if she would be interested in selling cross-stitched items in her store. Lorri fell in love with the woman's adorable stitched pieces and decided to try the technique herself. Lorri found cross-stitching great fun and it wasn't long before she had found her new niche.

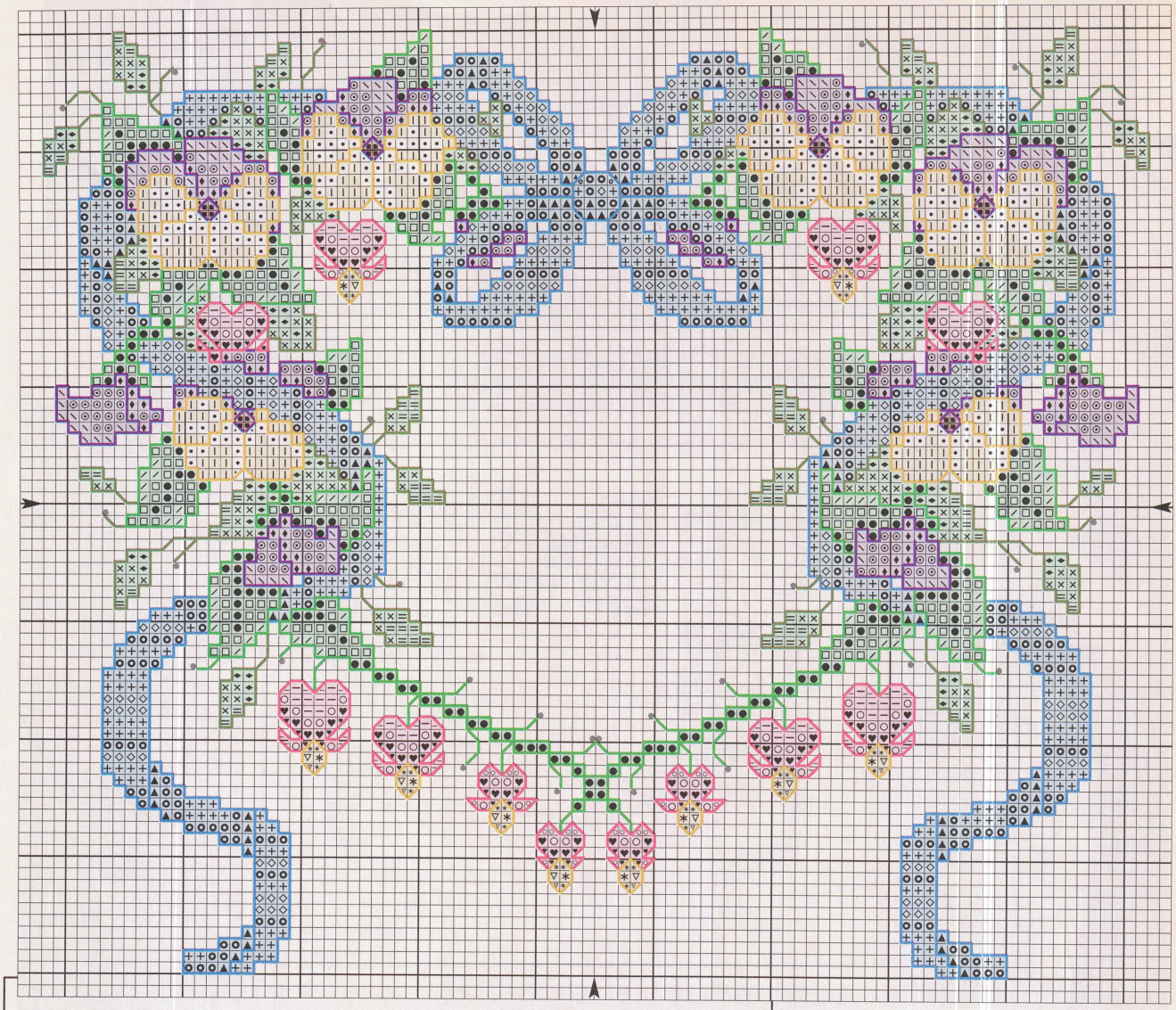
Not only did Lorri discover that she enjoyed stitching, but a few years later she also found that she enjoyed putting her art talents to work in the design area. "I feel that I am not a stitcher. I'm an illustrator who uses the art form of stitchery." Today Lorri inspires cross-stitchers all over the world with her beautifully distinct and heartwarming designs.

"I feel my strongest designs are my baby designs, characters, and floral motifs such as my *Pansy Heart*. And I especially enjoy my bunny and bear characters. To me, they come alive. I even find myself laughing aloud as I create them and the funny situations they are in."

After four years of designing, Lorri started Lorri Birmingham Designs in 1993, and today does design work in her home studio which is located on four acres in Connecticut. Built by her husband over their four-car garage, Lorri's studio is quite spacious and even has a cozy fireplace for those chilly nights at the drawing board.

Lorri's days are also filled with the joy of her family—her husband Philip, four children, two dogs, three cats, two rabbits, and two birds. "I really like animals. In fact, it's not safe to take me near a pet store or a Humane Society. My husband teases me about becoming an 'old cat lady' in my old age!"

"My love for stitchery makes my job immensely enjoyable. Not too many people can say that. I feel it is an answer to a prayer and I won't ever forget that."



PANSY HEART

ANCHOR	DMC	
342	211	Lavender
352	300	Mahogany
215	320	True pistachio
977	334	Dark baby blue
214	368	Light pistachio
1043	369	Pale pistachio
860	522	Dark olive drab
859	523	Medium olive drab
858	524	Light olive drab
098	553	Medium violet
096	554	Light violet
891	676	Light old gold
886	677	Pale old gold
890	729	Medium old gold
275	746	Off white
128	775	Light baby blue
075	962	Medium rose pink
073	963	Pale rose pink
144	3325	True baby blue
025	3716	Light rose pink
140	3755	Medium baby blue

ANCHOR	DMC	
BACKSTITCH		
215	320	True pistachio – large leaves, vines
977	334	Dark baby blue – ribbon
860	522	Dark olive drab – small leaves
098	553	Medium violet – pansies
890	729	Medium old gold – pansies, bleeding hearts
075	962	Medium rose pink – bleeding hearts
PEARLS		
		White

Stitch count: *80 high x 94 wide*

Finished design sizes:

14-count fabric – 5¾ x 6¾ inches

11-count fabric – 7¼ x 8½ inches

18-count fabric – 4½ x 5¼ inches

★★★★PANSY HEART

MATERIALS

FABRIC

10x10-inch piece of 28-count white linen

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in key

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop

2½-millimeter pearls; frame and mat

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and of fabric; begin stitching from there.

Use three plies of floss to work cross-stitches over two threads of fabric. Work backstitches using one ply. Use sewing thread to sew on pearls as shown on chart. Press stitchery and frame as desired.❖

MOTHER'S AND FATHER'S DAY SAMPLERS

Spring Greetings

Springtime, it's a season to celebrate—graduations, weddings, Mother's Day, and Father's Day. Our Grand Prizewinning* Mother's Day *and* Father's Day Sampler Cards *by Caroline Karlsson, include wonderful reminders about what mothers and fathers represent. Instructions for both cards begin below and charts are on page 30.

PHOTOGRAPHER:
SCOTT LITTLE

Pictured clockwise from upper right: *Daysailer Dad, Bluebird Greeting, My Mother, My Friend, Father's Day Sport's Sampler, Mother's Day Sampler, Graduation Greeting, Dutchman's Breeches,* and *For Your Wedding.*

**SAMPLER CARDS

Finished cards are 5½x3¾ inches.

MATERIALS

FABRIC

Two 5½x3¾-inch pieces of 14-count white Aida

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in keys on page 30

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
Powder blue and mauve acrylic paints
Purchased 5½x3¾-inch rose and slate cards with 4x2½-inch openings
Toothbrush; scissors; masking tape

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of the fabric to prevent fraying. Find the center of the chart and the center of fabric; begin stitching there.

Use two plies of floss to work cross-stitches. Work the French knots and all backstitches using one ply of floss.

To spatter-paint card, dip bristles of toothbrush in the desired acrylic paint color. Use thumb to brush against bristles to dot paint around the border of the card. Allow paint to dry. Centering the design within the card opening, tape the stitchery to inside of card.

To order the charts and instructions for the other six contest winners, send $7.00 to:
CS&CC Card Charts
1716 Locust Street—RW235
Des Moines, IA 50309-3023
Allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.❖

GRAND PRIZE:
MOTHER'S DAY SAMPLER AND FATHER'S DAY SPORT'S SAMPLER, CAROLINE KARLSSON

FIRST PRIZE:
MY MOTHER, MY FRIEND, RENEÉ DENT

SECOND PRIZE:
FOR YOUR WEDDING, BRENDA MUNCH

THIRD PRIZE:
GRADUATION GREETING, SHIRLEY LESNICK
DUTCHMAN'S BREECHES, ERICA NANCE
DAYSAILER DAD, KAREN SMITH
BLUEBIRD GREETING, BEV WHITEHEAD

MOTHER'S DAY SAMPLER

ANCHOR	DMC	
042	309	Rose
979	312	Navy
1038	519	Sky blue
098	553	Medium violet
096	554	Light violet
210	562	Medium seafoam
208	563	True seafoam
301	744	Yellow
169	806	Peacock blue
033	3706	Watermelon
075	3733	Dusty rose

BACKSTITCH

042	309	Rose–mother's lettering
979	312	Navy–borders, mom lettering, Day lettering, year
098	553	Medium violet–Mother lettering, alphabet
210	562	Medium seafoam–flower stems, bottom detail
208	563	True seafoam–center detail

FRENCH KNOT

042	309	Rose–between upper blue flowers
979	312	Navy–border
098	553	Medium violet–center and bottom details

Stitch count: *54 high x 34 wide*
Finished design size:
14-count fabric – 3⅞ x 2⅜ inches

MOTHER'S DAY SAMPLER

FATHER'S DAY SPORTS SAMPLER

ANCHOR	DMC	
399	318	Light steel
235	414	Dark steel
374	420	Medium hazel
373	422	Light hazel
362	437	Tan
1005	498	Christmas red
133	796	Royal blue
169	806	Peacock blue
1034	931	Antique blue
298	972	Deep canary
297	973	True canary
355	975	Dark golden brown
1001	976	Light golden brown

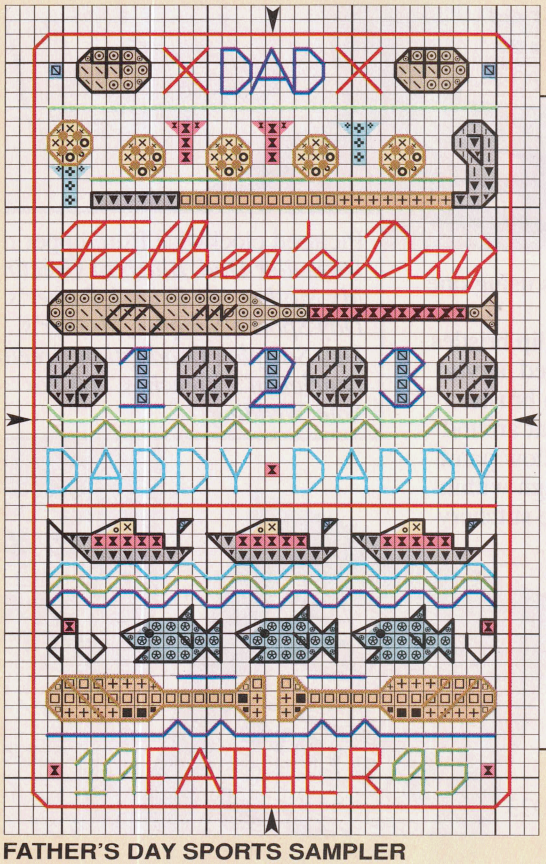
BACKSTITCH

403	310	Black–football, golf club, baseball bat, baseballs, boats, fish
1005	498	Christmas red–border, Father's Day lettering,
256	704	Light chartreuse–water line, upper grass line
133	796	Royal blue–numbers, water line
169	806	Peacock blue–daddy lettering, water line
257	905	Parrot green–year, grass line, water line
355	975	Dark golden brown–oars, golf club

FRENCH KNOT

403	310	Black–fish eyes
355	975	Dark golden brown–golf balls

Stitch count: *54 high x 33 wide*
Finished design size:
14-count fabric – 3⅞ x 2¼ inches



FATHER'S DAY SPORTS SAMPLER

THOUGHTS OF *Christmas*

Two humble Christmas scenes are portrayed in these heartwarming ornaments. Both designs are worked on 14-count dark blue Aida and are finished with glittering metallic trims. One features Smyrna cross stitch snowflakes falling softly over a cozy cabin. With "Noel" backstitched at the manger top, the other ornament pictures lowly animals paying homage to the baby Jesus. Instructions are below, charts are on page 32.

DESIGNER: BARBARA SESTOK
PHOTOGRAPHER: HOPKINS ASSOCIATES

★★NOEL AND CHRISTMAS CABIN ORNAMENTS

MATERIALS

for each ornament

FABRICS

7x7-inch piece of 14-count dark blue Aida cloth
6x6-inch piece of blue felt

FLOSS

Cotton embroidery floss in colors listed in keys on page 32

SUPPLIES

Needle; embroidery hoop
Erasable marker; tracing paper
6x6-inch piece of self-stick mounting board with foam
Crafts glue

For Noel ornament:

13½-inch piece of ¼-inch-wide blue and gold braid trim
13½-inch piece of ⅜-inch-wide metallic gold rickrack
5½-inch piece of ⅛-inch-diameter gold cord
⅝x⅝-inch piece of cardboard
Gold dust (Kreinik 210) #8 braid

For Christmas cabin ornament:

23-inch piece of ⅛-inch-wide metallic red braid trim
13-inch piece of ¼-inch-wide metallic silver trim

INSTRUCTIONS

Tape or zigzag edges of fabric to prevent fraying. Find center of chart and center of fabric; begin stitching there. Use three plies of floss to work cross-stitches. Work French knots using two plies of floss. Work backstitches using one ply of floss unless otherwise specified. For Christmas cabin, work Smyrna cross stitches referring to diagram, *page 32,* and using two plies of floss.

Use erasable marker to draw ornament outline on Aida cloth as indicated by dotted line on chart; *do not* cut out. Place tracing paper over fabric and trace ornament outline; cut out. Use tracing paper pattern to cut one shape from mounting board and one shape from felt.

Peel protective paper from mounting board. Center the foam side on the back of the stitchery and press to stick. Trim excess fabric ½ inch beyond edges of board. Fold raw edges of fabric to back and glue.

For Noel ornament, glue braid around the edge of ornament. Glue rickrack to edge of ornament behind braid. Fold gold cord in half; glue ends of cord to the top center of ornament back. Glue felt to the back of ornament. Cut a 2-inch length of #8 braid; set aside. Wrap braid from spool around cardboard square ten times. Carefully remove thread bundle from cardboard. Wrap 2-inch strand of braid around center of thread bundle and tie. Glue bow to top center of ornament.

For Christmas cabin, cut red braid into one 13-inch piece and two 5-inch pieces. Beginning at top, glue 13-inch piece of braid around the edge of ornament. Glue silver trim to edge of ornament behind braid. Fold one of the 5-inch pieces of braid in half; glue ends to the top center of ornament. Tie remaining braid into a bow; glue to top center of ornament front. Glue felt to the back of ornament.❖

CHRISTMAS CABIN ORNAMENT

CHRISTMAS CABIN ORNAMENT

ANCHOR	DMC	
002	000	White
352	300	Mahogany
399	318	Steel
011	350	Coral
373	422	Hazel
228	700	Christmas green
303	742	Tangerine
175	794	Cornflower blue

BACKSTITCH

002	000	White – chimney stack, roof (1X), lettering (2X)
352	300	Mahogany – chimney, house, windows
403	310	Black – all remaining stitches

FRENCH KNOT

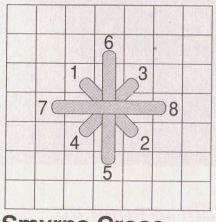
002	000	White – snow
011	350	Coral – ornaments
303	742	Tangerine – ornaments
133	796	Medium royal blue – ornaments

SMYRNA CROSS STITCH

002	000	White – snowflakes

Stitch count: 43 high x 53 wide

Finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 3 x 3¾ inches
11-count fabric – 4 x 4⅞ inches
18-count fabric – 2⅜ x 3 inches



Smyrna Cross Stitch

NOEL ORNAMENT

ANCHOR	DMC	
002	000	White
400	317	Pewter
399	318	Steel
351	400	Mahogany
1046	435	Golden brown
288	445	Lemon
303	742	Tangerine
1012	754	Peach
309	781	Topaz
307	783	Christmas gold
175	794	Cornflower blue
379	840	Beige brown

BACKSTITCH

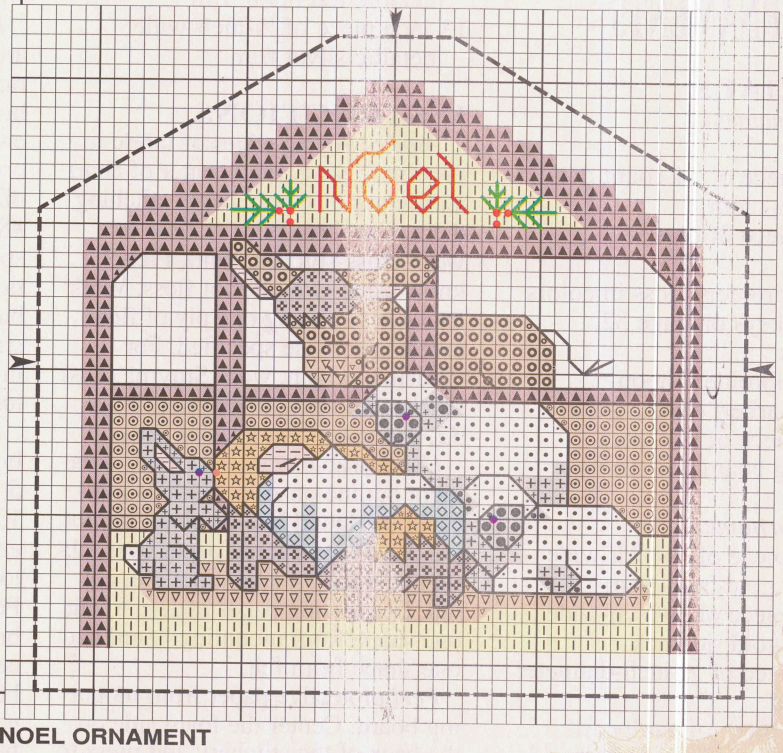
9046	321	Christmas red – noel lettering (2X)
226	702	Christmas green – greens
403	310	Black – all remaining stitches

FRENCH KNOT

403	310	Black – sheep eyes, bunny eye
9046	321	Christmas red – holly berries
1012	754	Peach – bunny nose

Stitch count: 39 high x 42 wide

Finished design sizes:
14-count fabric – 2¾ x 3 inches
11-count fabric – 3½ x 3⅞ inches
18-count fabric – 2 x 2⅓ inches



NOEL ORNAMENT

NEW CONTEST

HEART OF MY HEART

Give us your heart in cross-stitch. Create a heart-shaped design and send it to us—you could win one of seven cash prizes and have your design featured in the January/February 1996 issue of *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts*® magazine.

Grand Prize—$300
First Prize—$200
Second Prize—$150
Four Third Prizes—$50 each

WHAT TO DO: Create, chart, and stitch a heart-shaped design on 14-count fabric (Aida or 28-count linen or even-weave over two). Finish it any way you like. The stitched design must be no larger than 54x54 stitches. Include a list of materials, DMC or Anchor floss colors, and chart on 10-squares-per-inch graph paper.

Winners will be chosen on July 18, 1995. All entries must be entirely original, no portion of which has been copied from another's design, and not previously published in a card, book, leaflet, magazine, chart, or kit as cross-stitch or as art. All winning entries become the exclusive property of Meredith Corporation. Entry constitutes permission to use the winner's name and hometown for editorial and promotional purposes by Meredith Corporation. Employees of Meredith Corporation and residents of Quebec not eligible. Winners will be requested to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility, Assignment, and Release. Entries will be judged by the editors on uniqueness and quality of design, and quality of execution. Decisions of the judges are final. Subject to all federal, state, and local laws; void where prohibited. Taxes are the sole responsibility of winners.

HOW TO ENTER: Send entry with your name, address, and daytime and evening phone numbers to *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts*–RW235, Heart Contest, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. Enclose $3.00 for return shipping; non-winning entries will be returned via United States mail. Meredith is not responsible for damage or loss occurring during transit. Enter as often as you like. All entries must be received in our offices by July 14, 1995. For a list of prizewinners, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address above.❖

STITCHERS WHO COUNT

WIN $500 CASH

Have you ever surprised a friend with a cross-stitch gift or donated a project to a charity? If you have a special story about giving away a cross-stitch project, you're eligible for our brand-new *Stitchers Who Count* contest.

Every issue, we'll choose a #1 stitcher who will win the Grand Prize of $500 CASH! The Prizewinning story will appear in an upcoming issue of *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts* along with the winner's photograph and a picture of the winner's project! Ten runner-up winners will be awarded an exclusive tee-shirt ($10.00 value) from *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts!*

To enter, send us a clear, color photo of your project and tell us your story in 100 to 200 words. Why was your gift-giving event special? Does your story yank at our heartstrings or make us laugh? Was it how you presented your gift or the reaction of the recipient that makes your story unique?

Then, tell us what issue of *CS&CC* or other Craftways publication the design was from, how you adapted it, and any special details about the framing or finishing. Include your name, address, and daytime and evening phone numbers on your story and picture. Entries for our January/February 1996 *Stitchers Who Count* contest must be received in our offices by July 31, 1995. Winners will be chosen August 1, 1995 and notified by mail.

Send your entry to *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts*—Stitchers Who Count, 1716 Locust St.—RW235, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. Enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like your photo returned. Judging, based on uniqueness of the story, creativity and execution of the project, workmanship, and creativity involved in finishing or framing, will be done by the editors. All decisions will be final. Stories must be original, not previously published. Grand prize entry becomes the property of Meredith Corporation and will not be returned. Entry constitutes permission to use winner's name, hometown, and photograph unless prohibited by law. Winners will be requested to sign an Affidavit of Eligibility, Assignment, and Release. Subject to all federal, state, and local laws. Void where prohibited. Taxes are sole responsibility of winner. No responsibility assumed for late, lost, or misdirected entries. Contest void in Quebec. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address above for a list of winners.❖

MY FAVORITE STORE

THAT SPECIAL TOUCH

Norman, Oklahoma

My favorite store is That Special Touch in Norman, Oklahoma. I live about an hour away, but the en route time flies. They offer all materials any cross-stitcher might dream of, but my favorite aspect of this store is the people who work there.

There are several ladies who are always patient as I browse at an extremely slow pace, through every book. To make life easier, they mark the new books with a clothes pin and ribbon, which makes finding new projects a breeze.

They also make my son, Cody, feel comfortable. He walks with a walker and these ladies always go out of their way to make him feel welcome. Most smaller specialty stores get nervous when we stroll in, but, at That Special Touch, they talk, joke, and play with him and that means a lot to me. If you are ever in Norman, you should stop by there, just to step back into a gentler time and place.

Dawn Owen
Shawnee, Oklahoma

Do you have a favorite needlecraft store? What makes it special to you? Is it the displays, classes, people, or a specific incident that makes you feel good? Write us. Nothing fancy, 50 to 100 words. If we use it, YOU WIN $50! Send to: Cross Stitch & Country Crafts—*RW 235, My Favorite Store, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023.*❖

PREVIEW

COMING NEXT ISSUE

- It's time to stitch Christmas stockings and we have not one, but *two* wonderful socks to stitch for the holidays.
- Look for a lacy gazebo worked on 28-count Jobelan overlaying a colorful flower garden that's stitched on 22-count Hardanger.
- Watch for our Collector's Series, *The Covered Bridges of Madison County*, that recaptures the romance of a gentle time long ago.❖

Buying Guide

Many materials for the projects in this issue are available at your local shops. For information about the store nearest you, contact the manufacturers listed below.

SEASONAL CELEBRATIONS, page 4: Antique tan linen—Wichelt Imports Inc., R.R. 1, Stoddard, WI 54658. Page 7: Light mocha Belfast linen—Zweigart, 2 Riverview Dr., Somerset, NJ 08873-1139, 908/271-1949.
COLLECTOR'S SERIES, page 9: Nordic blue linen—Wichelt Imports Inc.
FINISH IT TONIGHT, page 12: Saar towels—Zweigart.
NEW TECHNIQUE, page 14: Peach Lugana—Zweigart; silk ribbons—YLI Corporation, 800/854-1932; blending filament—Kreinik Manufacturing, 800/537-2166; beads—Mill Hill Beads, 800/447-1332.
SPECIAL FEATURE, page 17: New khaki Brittney, white linen, and star sapphire linen—Wichelt Imports Inc; overdyed floss, Needle Necessities, 14746 NE 95th St., Redmond, WA 98052, 206/881-2161.
SPECIAL FEATURE, page 24: Damask Aida—Zweigart.
DESIGNER PROFILE, page 27: Lorri Birmingham Designs, P.O. Box 512, Granby, CT 06035. White linen—Wichelt Imports Inc.
CONTEST WINNER, page 29: Greeting cards—Yarn Tree Designs, 117 Alexander St., P.O. Box 274, Ames, IA 50010, 515/232-3121. Send a SASE for catalog of greeting cards.
CHRISTMAS CORNER, page 31: Dark blue Aida—Wichelt Imports Inc.
Floss: Anchor, Consumer Service Dept., P.O. Box 27067, Greenville, SC 29616; DMC, Port Kearney Bldg. 10, South Kearney, NJ 07032-0650.
Metallic threads: Kreinik Manufacturing, 800/537-2166.
Framing: Dot's Frame Shop, 4223 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA 50321.❖

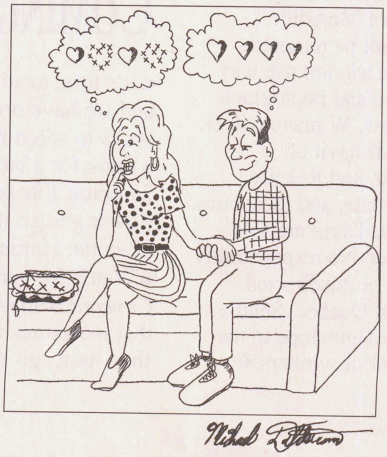
Where to Find Us

For service on your subscription, including change of address, write CS&CC Customer Service, Box 56829, Boulder, CO 80322-6829. Or call toll free in USA and Canada 800/234-0740. (Other countries 303/447-9330.)
For Letters to the Editor, write CS&CC–RW235, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023. Or call 515/284-3623.
For "Supplies for this Issue" or Customer Service, write CS&CC, P.O. Box 6656, Maple Plain, MN 55592-6656 or call toll free from USA and Canada, 800/709-7000. Or fax 612/479-4662.
For Keepsake® Calendars in USA, write Calendar, 111 Tenth Street, Box 11447, Des Moines, IA 50336-1447. Or call toll free 800/678-2694. To place Keepsake® Calendar orders in Canada, call 800/709-7000.❖ WE CARE!

Chris Cross

Torn between two loves...

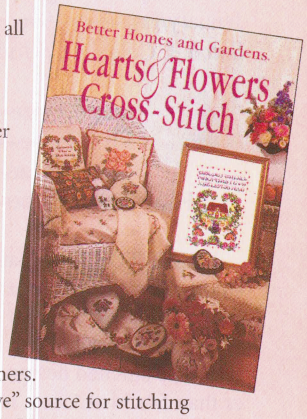
Janet L.K. Wilpan wins $25 for this Chris Cross cartoon idea. Send yours c/o Chris Cross, CROSS STITCH & COUNTRY CRAFTS—RW235, 1716 Locust Street, Des Moines, IA 50309-3023; enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope if you'd like your cartoon returned.❖



Heart & Flower Lovers,

Get Ready for Cross-Stitch INSPIRATION... *FREE!*

Be the First to Stitch From This Fabulous Book! Reply Today!



- Lovely floral and heart designs — 59 in all — from quick 'n easy to heirloom
- Full-color charts
- Full-color photos of each project
- 224 big, beautiful pages on quality paper
- Hardcover, built to last a lifetime
- Easy charts and instructions
- DMC and Anchor floss charts
- Complete materials lists
- How-to's make it easy to customize projects

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to: *Hearts & Flowers,* P.O. Box 11447, Des Moines, IA 50336-1447

For Canadian orders, please refer to the insert card in this issue.
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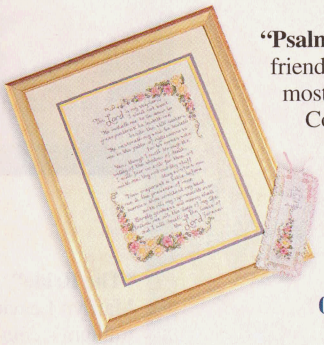
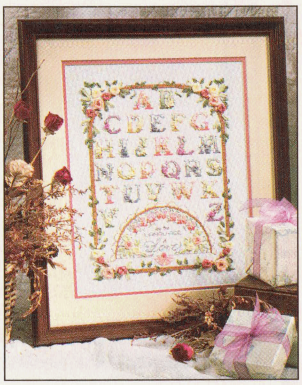
Country Shopper

Welcome to the COUNTRY SHOPPER— full of exciting new designs, charts, fabrics and accessories to enhance your stitching pleasure!



"Psalm 23 With Bookmark" …Surprise a lifelong friend with a truly exquisite rendering of one of our most beloved psalms along with a handy bookmark. Counted cross-stitch kit from Karen Bowdish contains 14-count antique white cotton Aida, antique white cotton book-mark, cotton floss, oversized charts, tapestry needle, instructions. Picture is 11" x 15". Mat and frame not included. Made in USA. Sure to become a cherished keepsake.
051920 Psalm 23 $26.99



"Floral Alphabet Sampler"…For your collection, a delightful rendition of the alphabet! Counted cross-stitch/counted ribbon embroidery kit by Jorja Hernandez consists of 14-count white cotton Aida, cotton floss, silk ribbon, 2 needles, multi-colored chart, instructions. 11" x 14". Mat and frame not included. Makes an impressive hanging.
051490 Floral Alphabet Sampler $24.99

"Stack of Teacups"…You won't have to worry about these cups falling down. Designed by Candi Martin, this counted cross-stitch kit features 14-count white cotton Aida cloth, cotton floss, needle, chart, and directions. Mat and frame are not included. 8" x 20". Made in USA. Perfect for a tea-drinking pal!
048579 Stack of Teacups $11.99

"Victorian Heart" …Stitch a symbol of your undying love for the special person in your life. Sharon Sutherland Pope's ribbon embroidery kit contains rayon silken embroidery ribbon, cotton floss, 28-count antique white cotton Monaco cloth, needle, iron-on transfer, chart, and directions. 9½" x 9½". Mat and frame not included. They'll cherish it forever
051516 Victorian Heart $12.99

"Four Seasons Cats"…For everyone who can't get enough of the little felines, an exceptional design! Counted cross-stitch kit by Donna Vermillion Giampa contains 14-count antique white cotton Aida, cotton floss, chart, needle, and instructions. 10½" x 10½". Mat and frame not included. Made in USA. Good for home or office!
052530 Four Seasons Cats $22.99

"Schoolhouse Sampler"…Combine an inspirational sentiment with an old-fashioned alphabet and schoolhouse for a design that's sure to be a conversation opener. Counted cross-stitch kit from the Stoney Creek Collection contains 14-count ivory cotton Aida cloth, cotton floss, blending filament, needle, chart, instructions. Mat and frame not included. Measures 12" x 17". Made in USA. Makes a distinctive accent.
049957 Schoolhouse Sampler $14.99

"Nantucket Rose"…You'll love the elegant interplay of color and detail on this delicate piece by Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum. Counted cross-stitch kit contains 32-count dove gray linen, presorted DMC cotton floss, needle, chart, directions. 12" x 16". Frame not included.

051813 Nantucket Rose Kit $64.99
051797 Nantucket Rose Leaflet $6.99
051805 32-Count Dove Grey Linen (18" x 27") $11.49

"Earth Dancer" is an amazing Native-American inspired vignette. Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum's counted cross-stitch kit consists of 28-count linen fabric, pre-sorted DMC cotton floss, tapestry and beading needle, color chart, directions. Does not include frame. 14¼" x 17½". A fantastic gift for a friend enthralled by ancient cultures.

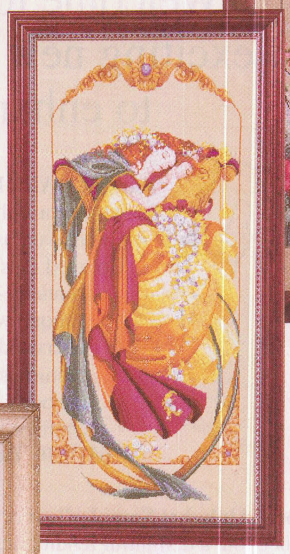
049593 Earth Dancer Kit $84.99
049601 Earth Dancer Leaflet $6.99
050682 28-Count Prairie Green Linen Fabric (18" x 27") $19.99

"Fairy Flora"… Create an exquisite depiction of a majestic fairy. Nora Corbett's counted cross-stitch kit contains 32-count Barnwood linen, presorted cotton floss, glass beads, needle, chart, directions. 8" x 20". Frame not included.

050989 Fairy Flora Leaflet $7.99
050997 32-Count Barnwood Linen (18" x 27") $14.99
051789 Fairy Flora Kit $64.99

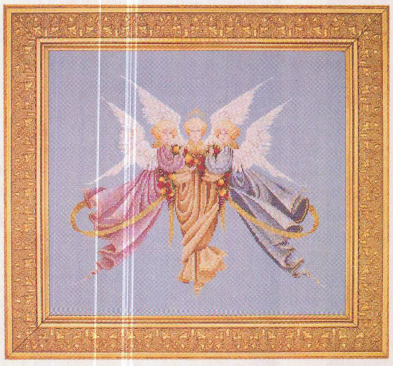
"The Dreamer" …Take a step back from the travails of our hectic world with this soothing creation. Counted cross-stitch design is from one of our favorites—Nora Corbett! Finished piece measures 10" x 23½".

051763 The Dreamer $7.99
051771 32-Count Desert Sand Linen (18" x 27") $14.49



"The Bride"… Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum's counted cross-stitch kit contains 16-count cotton bold spice Aida, presorted cotton floss, needle, color chart, directions. 9⅝" x 13¼". Mat and frame not included.

051672 The Bride Leaflet $6.99
051680 32-Count Natural Belfast Linen (18" x 27") $12.99
052795 The Bride Kit $49.99



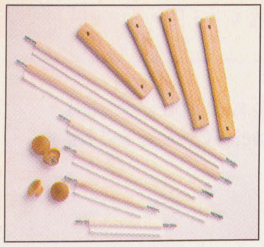
"Heavenly Gifts"…Re-create one of Marilyn Leavitt-Imblum's most magnificent angel designs ever. Counted cross-stitch design is 13¼" x 12" when completed. Brings a beautiful presence to any decor.

052274 Heavenly Gifts $6.99
035980 32-Count Twilight Blue Linen (18" x 27") $11.49

"Flowers of the Month"… Let enchanting floral arrangements herald the start of Summer. Designed by Marie Barber. Each completed design measures 9" x 13".

052803 May-Flower of the Month Leaflet $5.49
052811 June-Flower of the Month Leaflet $5.49
048330 28-Count Shell Linen (18" x 27") $13.49

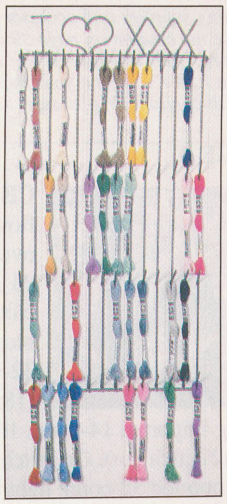
TO ORDER CALL 1-800-709-7000



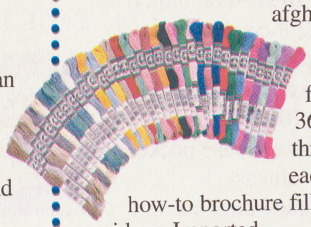
"Starter Set Scroll Frames" …Get all the materials you need to make 6 sizes of easy-to-hold scroll frames. Set includes 6", 12" and 18" scroll rods plus 6" and 8" extender bars handcrafted of quality oaks and hardwoods. Knobs also included.
047845 Starter Set Scroll Frames $39.99

"Adjustable Craft Stand"… Constructed from durable American hardwood, this 36" stand holds hoops, stretcher bars, and scroll frames of all sizes. It adjusts easily for height, angle, or right and left hand use. Split rail scroll frame included. 9" x 24".
052993 Adjustable Craft Stand $49.99

"Metal Floss Rack" gives you easy access to floss for all your works in progress! Measures 11¼" x 22¾" x 2¼".
049460 Metal Floss Rack $19.99



"The DMC Flower Thread Collection" features soft, fine, matte finish thread is ideal for cross-stitching on linen, afghan fabrics, and a wide variety of evenweave fabrics. You get 36 skeins of thread (21.8 yards each) and a how-to brochure filled with project ideas. Imported.
043638 DMC Flower Thread Collection $19.99



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To make the projects in this issue, check your local needlework shop for stitching supplies and accessories. Or, you may order supplies here.

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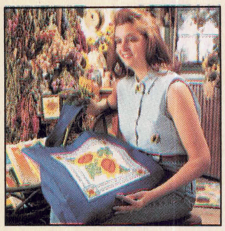

CELEBRATE SUMMER with sunflowers and bees! The bloom on the oversized tote bag is stitched on imported 100% cotton white 8-count Aida cloth (18x27-inch cut). Work a smaller blossom for a brooch on imported 32-count antique tan 100% linen (18x27-inch cut) or on a blouse pocket using imported 14-count 100% cotton waste canvas (18x27-inch cut). Or, stitch the bee sampler and button covers on imported 32-count light mocha 100% linen (18x27-inch cut).

___**052829** 8-count white Aida cloth $5.99
___**052837** 32-count antique tan linen $13.99
___**034983** 14-count waste canvas $4.99
___**052845** 32-count light mocha linen $11.99

PAGE 9

STITCH THE MAJESTIC ROOSTER from our cover on imported 28-count Nordic blue 100% linen. The 18x27-inch piece is big enough to stitch this regal rooster and his companion *Imperial Rooster* who appeared in the March/April 1995 issue of *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts*®.

___**051334** 28-count Nordic blue linen $8.99
___**051102** March/April 1995 issue of *CS&CC* $3.95

PAGE 12

FRESH FRUIT for your kitchen is easy to stitch on imported 32x15-inch 12-count 100% cotton Saar towels. Choose red for cherries or blue for blueberries.

___**052860** Red Saar towel $11.99
___**052852** Blue Saar towel $11.99

PAGE 15

EVERYTHING YOU NEED to create a dainty pastel heart is packaged in a kit: Two 9x10-inch pieces of imported 52% cotton, 48% viscose, 25-count peach Lugana, orchid, blue, peach and adobe 4-mm silk ribbon, green 7-mm silk ribbon, beads, self-stick mounting board, floss, blending filament and instructions.

___**052878** Pastel Floral Heart kit $13.99

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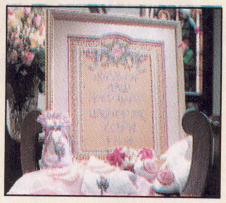
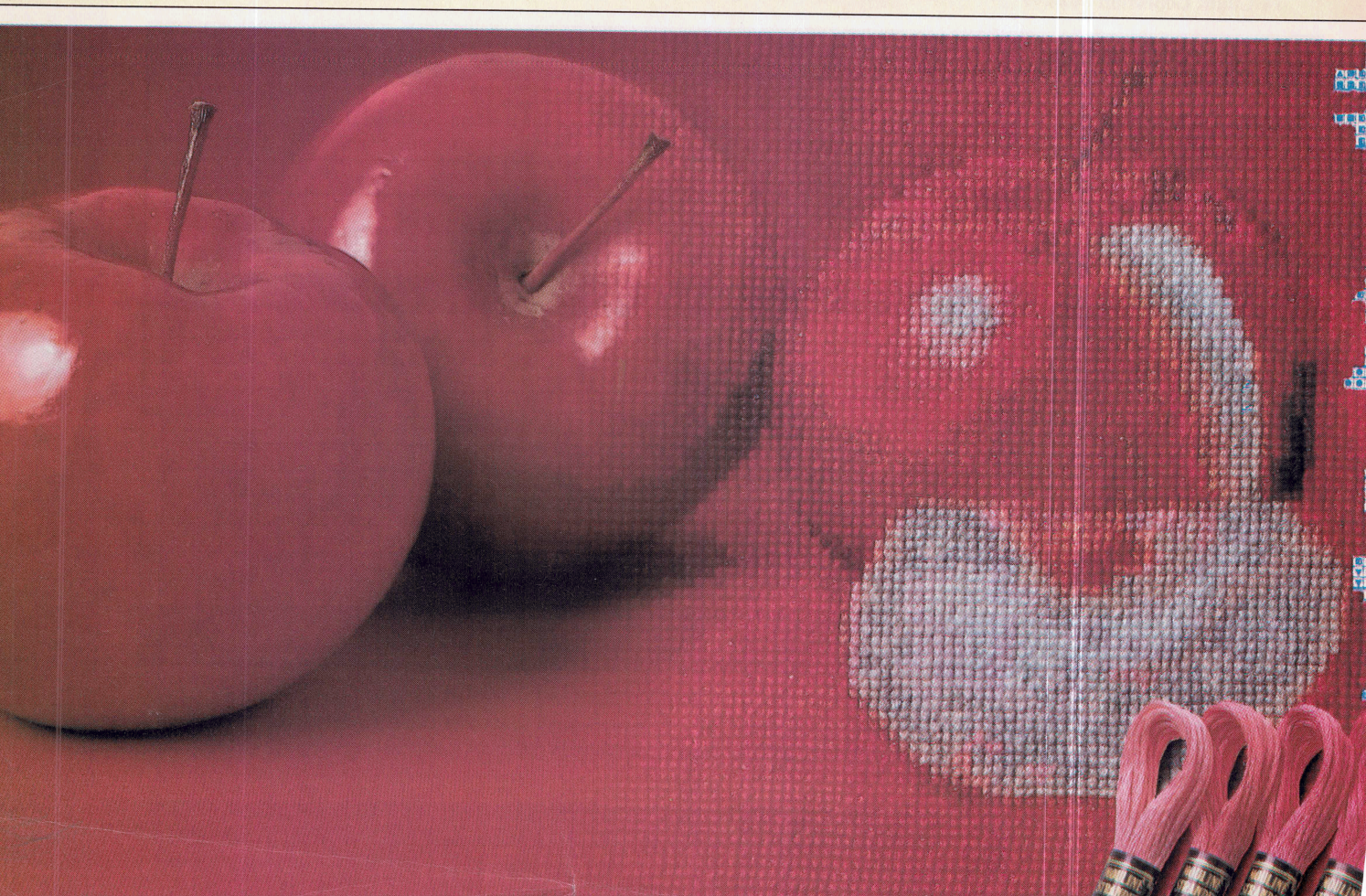


STITCH A FLORAL for a special spring occasion. Any bride will be thrilled with the *Ribbons and Roses Wedding* sampler, worked on imported 52% cotton, 48% rayon 28-count new khaki Brittney; a rose stitched on imported 28-count white 100% linen



for a rice bag and shoe clips or 14-count waste canvas on a handkerchief. For Mother's Day, give a zinnia seed bag stitched on imported 28-count star sapphire 100% linen. Each fabric piece measures 18x27 inches.

__**052885** 28-count new Khaki Brittney fabric $7.99
__**027458** 28-count white linen $10.99
__**034983** 14-count waste canvas $4.99
__**052894** 28-count star sapphire linen $14.99

PAGE 24

GIVE A VERY PERSONAL GIFT—a birthday treasure bag—to a friend born in September, October, November, or December. Stitch it on the appropriate color of imported 55% cotton, 45% rayon 18-count damask Aida cloth. Each piece measures 18x21 inches. To stitch bags for January through April, order the January/February 1995 issue of *Cross Stitch & Country Crafts*®. For birthdays in the months of May through August, order the March/April 1995 issue.

__**049585** 18-count carnation pink Damask Aida cloth (September) $8.99
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__**051094** January/February 1995 issue of *CS&CC* $3.95
__**051102** March/April 1995 issue of *CS&CC* $3.95

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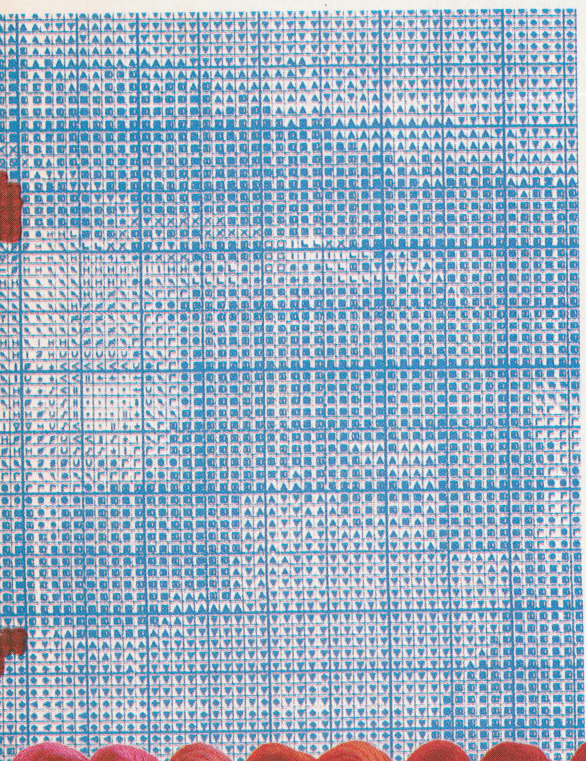

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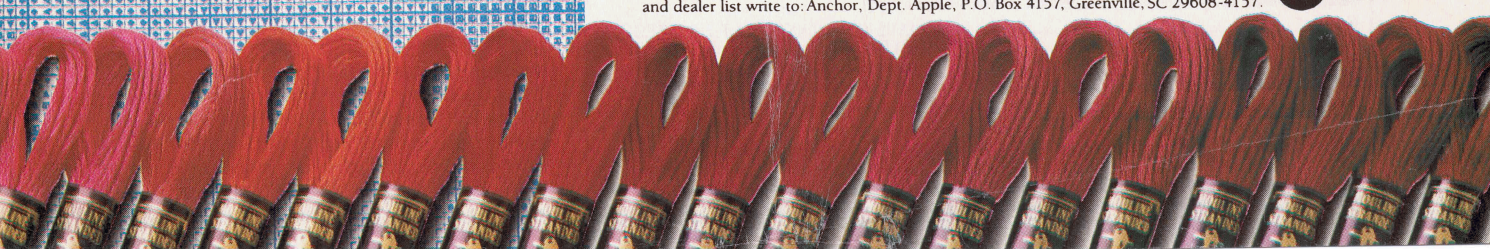

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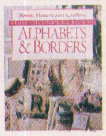

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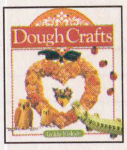

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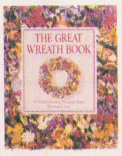

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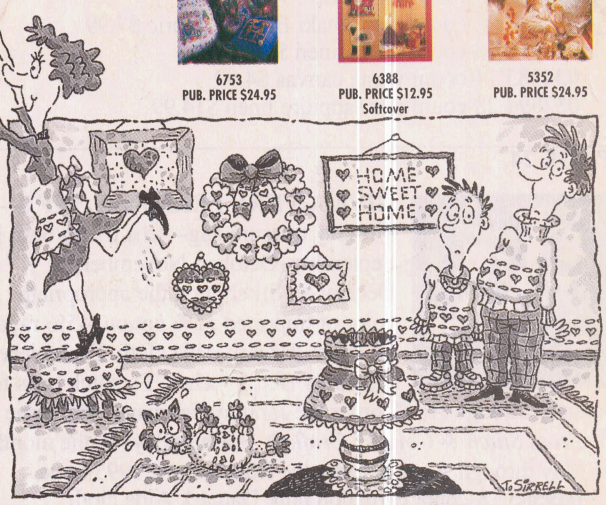

While Sarah made the most of her three books, her family was beginning to have second thoughts.

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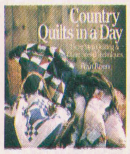

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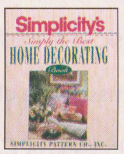

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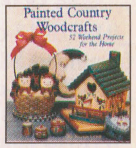

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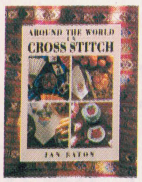

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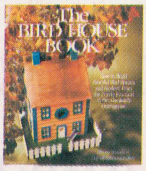

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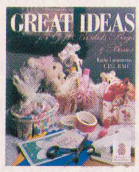

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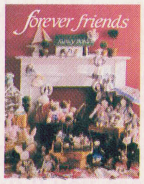

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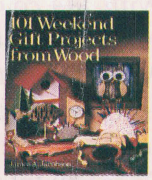

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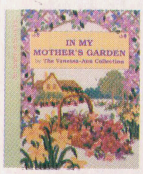

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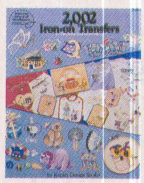

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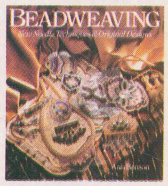

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